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## Thatcher message of calm on EEC and Beirut troops

- The Prime Minister said yesterday Britain would not withdraw its troops from Lebanon but indicated the need for closer United States consultation.
- Mrs Thatcher told the Commons it would take a year to achieve the changes Britain is seeking in the EEC.
- The French Government is saying little about the Athens debacle but the French press castigated Mrs Thatcher (Page 6).
- The first of four Greek ferries, chartered to evacuate the 4,000 Arafat supporters in Lebanon, is due to reach Tripoli tomorrow (Page 6).

By Julian Haviland and Anthony Bevins

The Prime Minister returned to Westminster from the Athens summit yesterday with a message of calm for MPs anxious about the British contingent in Lebanon and the breakdown of EEC negotiations.

The British troops would not be withdrawn: consultation would be increased with the Americans, with a hint of military restraint, and, on the Community, Mrs Thatcher said a financial settlement could be another year in the making.

Mrs Thatcher failed to mention the British contingent in Beirut during a report on Athens, but when pressed by Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, she appeared to stiffen her resolve to keep the force intact.

In post-summit interviews, she had said there was no truth in rumours of a British pullout "at the moment" and that the purpose of the multinational force could "just" be maintained.

But she told MPs yesterday: "There would be considerable repercussions, not only among the various communities in Lebanon and the Arab and Jewish communities beyond, but also within the alliance, if there were to be any suggestion that we should unilaterally pull out or be thought in any way to be leading a retreat. We will not."

The Prime Minister appears keen to persuade Washington that there is a difference between self-defence and the

pursuit of diplomatic goals through military means.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, said during foreign affairs questions before Mrs Thatcher's statement that he had earlier informed President Reagan's special envoy in the Middle East, Mr Donald Rumsfeld, of MPs' anxieties about the American strikes against Syrian targets.

Talks will continue with Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, and the French and

Mrs Thatcher repeated the same concern, although she asked the House to understand that defensive action had to be considered in the light of American losses.

In her report to Parliament on the failure in Athens, the Prime Minister suggested that the changes Britain is seeking in the Community would take another year to achieve.

She told Mr Kinnock that she doubted whether the Community would be in real financial difficulty until the autumn (of 1984). "That is the point when we are most likely to get reform," she said.

Mr Kinnock accused her of trying to blame the "unmitigated failure" of the summit on everyone but herself. "You have let our country down again," he said.

The Conservative benches, with strong support from the Social Democrats, endorsed Mrs Thatcher's stance.

Mrs Geoffrey Rippon, who negotiated British membership for Mr Edward Heath, said an open failure was probably better than a pretended success.

● **ROME:** The Italian Government seems to be in favour of withdrawing its Beirut contingent, but wants to avoid a unilateral step which would anger Washington.

The inner cabinet yesterday confirmed its view that the role of the multinational force should be re-examined, with the United Nations playing a larger part.

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Commission gets tough 6  
French blame Britain 6  
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## IRA kills leading Ulster politician

**From Richard Ford, Belfast**

A leading Official Unionist member of the Northern Ireland Assembly was murdered by the Provisional IRA yesterday, bringing renewed fears of a violent upsurge in revenge killings throughout the province.

In retaliation for the killing of two of its members by the Special Air Services, the Provisional IRA shot the Official Unionist Party's law and order spokesman, Mr Edgar Graham, outside Queen's University in south Belfast.

He was the most senior politician to die in Ulster since the Provisionals killed the Rev Robert Bradford MP who like Mr Graham, aged 29 and a lecturer at the university, represented the South Belfast constituency for the Official Unionists.

Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, cancelled his engagements yesterday to hold emergency talks with the police and the Army and there were demands from Unionists for tighter security and the reintroduction of selective internment.

The Rev Martin Smith, Official Unionist MP for South Belfast, said that he had requested more police protection for Mr Graham because he believed that he was an easy target for a murder attempt.

Mr Graham himself had alleged in the Northern Ireland Assembly that "loyalist" and Republican paramilitaries were conspiring to kill a leading Official Unionist.

Last night the Royal Ulster Constabulary said that it had discussed security with Mr Graham on several occasions and that had led to protective measures at his home, which he shared with his sister Ann, including a direct means of communication with the police.

Less than two weeks ago the police discussed further security

measures at Mr Graham's home and advised him on his movements at work but at no time, the police said, had he asked for personal protection at home or work. He had been issued with a personal protection weapon which he was carrying at the time of his death.

The terrorist struck soon after Mr Graham, a single man, had walked from his car and was talking with a colleague on the pavement near the university's law library.

Two men in casual dress came out of the university buildings. One of them pulled a high velocity pistol from a folder of papers and shot Mr Graham in the back of the head at point blank range.

As he fell to the ground, blood pouring from the wound, the gunman fired three more shots before running off and passing the pistol to his colleague. Medical staff from the university attempted to give first aid but Mr Graham dies soon afterwards.

As a lecturer on his way to a regular tutorial, Mr Graham's movements would have been known within the university.

Security forces have long

Continued on back page, col 1



Mr Edgar Graham: Shot outside university.

## 37% rise in drink-drive prosecutions

**By John Witherow**

There has been a big increase in the number of prosecutions for drink-driving offences since the introduction of electronic breath-testing machines last May, according to provisional Home Office figures.

About 75,000 drivers were convicted on drink-drive charges last year. But in the seven months since the "intoximeter" came into use there have been 60,000 positive tests, most of which have led to convictions. If the trend continues it will mean that the number of convictions for drink-driving will increase by about 37 per cent over last year.

An official of the manufacturers of Lion Intoximeters, which have been issued to 39 police forces in England and

Wales, said that the rate of positive results was highest because it enabled police officers to deal with drink-drive suspects much more rapidly than under the old system.

"Before, a policeman might have to go back to the police station for a couple of hours while he waited for a doctor and a blood test," he said. "Now he can be back on patrol within 10 minutes."

Home Office figures also show that last year only 35 per cent of tests for drink-driving proved positive, compared with nearly 60 per cent in the early 1970s.

The "intoximeter" may be leading to more prosecutions, but the printout from the £3,000 machine has led to legal controversy.

Thousands of motorists fac-

## US will go 'anywhere' to get fair arms deal

**From Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent**

Brussels

Mr Caspar Weinberger, the US Defence Secretary, told NATO yesterday that the US would go "anywhere in the world" to negotiate a sound arms control agreement with the Soviet Union.

Ending a two-day conference with Nato defence ministers, he told reporters: "We stand ready to negotiate fully at any table anywhere in the world, to get a fair agreement to reduce Soviet and US missiles in Europe."

Mr Weinberger is in Europe assuring Nato that US-Soviet dialogue will continue despite deployment of new American missiles and the recent Soviet walk-out from negotiations to reduce intermediate-range nuclear missiles (INF).

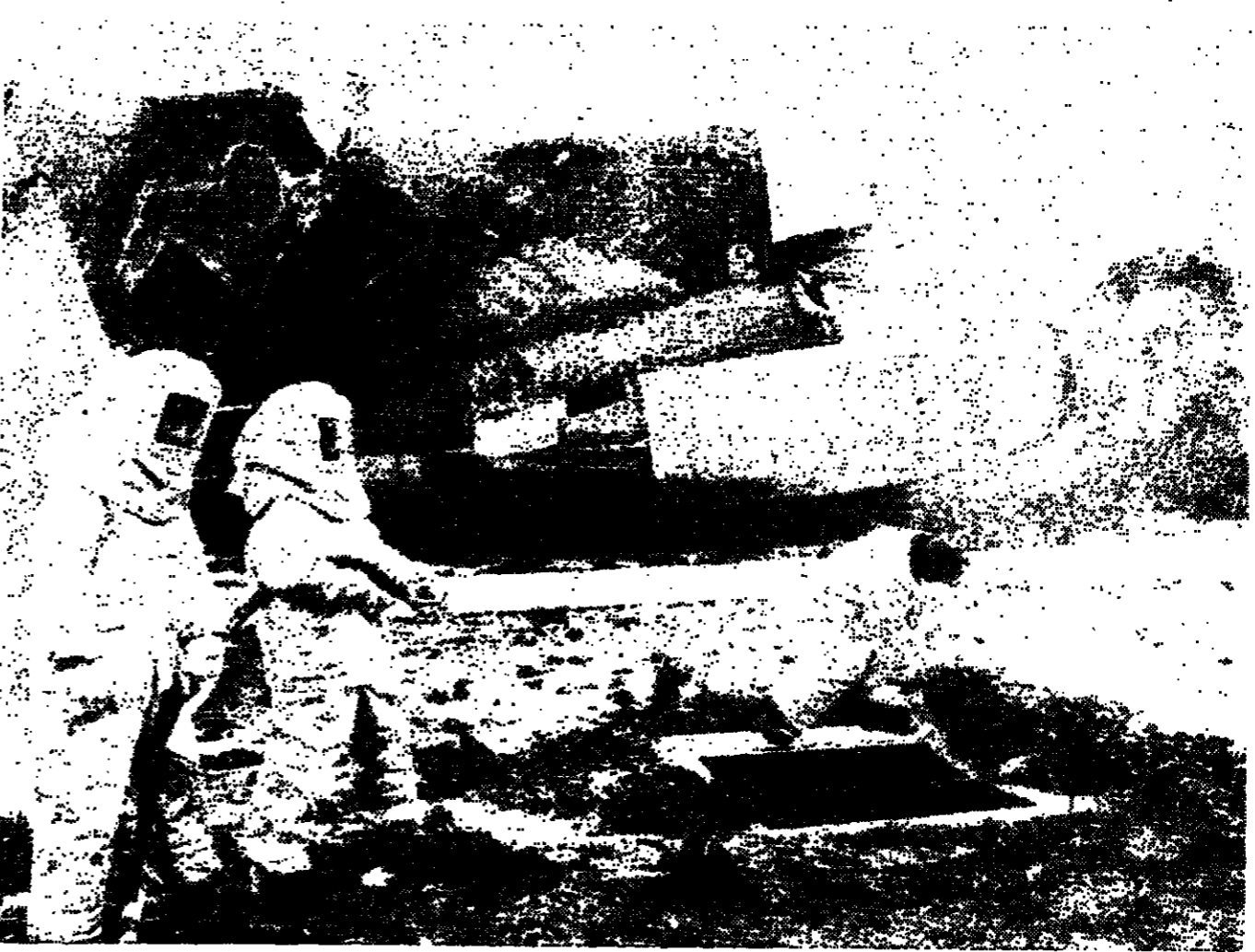
He and the defence ministers discussed the wisdom of merging the intermediate-range talks with talks on strategic missiles, the present round of which ends in Geneva today.

Mr Weinberger was cool to the idea. He said the chief difficulty was to get the Russians to "negotiate seriously."

Nato ministers have also shown little enthusiasm for merging the talks: the general view is that any initiative for INF resumption will have to come from Russia.

Mr Michael Heseltine, the British Defence Secretary, said the West had made it clear it was not going to abandon the conference table. "If the Soviets genuinely wanted a rapprochement they would find it extraordinarily easy."

Most of the ministers reaffirmed Nato's decision to proceed with deployment of Pershing 2 and cruise missiles.



Disaster in the fog: The tail section of the Iberia Airways aircraft after firemen extinguished the flames.

## 90 die in second Madrid crash in 10 days

**From Our Own Correspondent, Madrid**

About 90 people were killed yesterday when two Spanish airliners collided in thick fog in Madrid's second crash in less than two weeks. Airline officials said that there were 41 survivors.

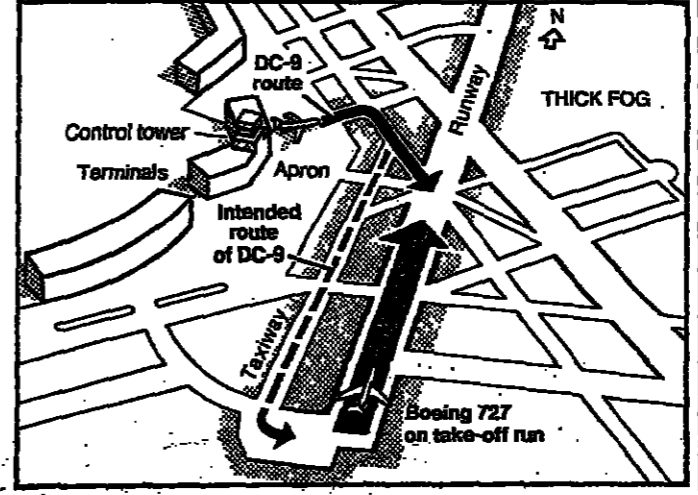
A Boeing 727 of the national airline Iberia was taking off when a DC 9 of the domestic company Aviaco crossed its path on the main runway at Barajas airport. The DC 9's fuel tanks exploded and fire broke out.

Senior Carlos Espinosa, president of both airlines, said all 37 passengers and five crew on board the Aviaco plane died. The Iberia aircraft was carrying 84 passengers, including about 40 Japanese tourists, and nine crew.

Susan Roberts, Reuters's correspondent in Madrid, reported from the scene that the DC 9 was totally destroyed. "There were just bits and pieces," she said. Further along the runway the burnt-out hulk of the Iberia plane was still smoking. Only the engines and tail of the aircraft were recognisable.

As rescue teams, working in dense fog, pulled charred and mutilated bodies from the wreckage, covering them with blankets, survivors told of the horror of the crash. Officials said the Boeing was moving at about 200 mph when it hit the DC 9.

One survivor, Seor Jesus Villar, said he was reading. "The plane was already off the



ground. There was a hell of a crash. The plane came down and fire broke out almost immediately."

Signor Mimmo Ciarrano, an Italian survivor, said he rushed to the back of the Boeing after the collision because the front was engulfed in flames and smoke.

"Two stewardesses had fainted beside the emergency door at the back of the plane and all the passengers were rushing towards it," he said. "As I am tall, I was able to push my way through, break the glass in the door and get out. Then the other passengers were able to do the same."

The fog at Barajas was so thick yesterday morning that shortly before the collision incoming flights had been diverted to other Spanish airfields. A control tower official said that visibility had been down to five yards. "You couldn't see anything on the runway," he said.

Eyewitnesses said that the Boeing was at the stage of takeoff down runway 01 with visibility down to 25ft. It was unable to divert to avoid the DC9, but Signor Ciarrano said he had felt a "sharp movement" of the plane to the left just before the crash.

Senior Espinosa claimed the airport was open to traffic at the time and an official weather report put visibility at 300yds. The Iberia aircraft had been cleared for take-off by ground control while the Aviaco plane had been told to start its take-off approach.

Firemen who rushed to the

Continued on back page, col 2

## Rushford sees Scoon as 'Caesar' of Grenada

**From Trevor Fishlock, New York**

Mr Anthony Rushford, the British legal specialist who resigned as Attorney-General of Grenada, said yesterday that he quit because he did not want to be associated with an ineffective and leaderless Government.

"I saw the situation collapsing to anarchy... My reputation and integrity were at stake," he told me by telephone from St Vincent, on his way to Antigua.

Evidently angry over what he called an "exhausting experience" during his five weeks in Grenada, he said he had been treated by Sir Paul Scoon, the Governor-General, with "contempt and condescension."

"Sir Paul is a pompous man" he declared. He refers to himself, in the third person, as Governor-General - even at the dinner table.

But there were also "personal slights" Mr Rushford admitted. "I was inadequately paid, housed and recognised. I had no entertainment allowance. The glasses of beer I bought for journalists and diplomats I paid for myself."

He described Grenada's Government as a headless body. "The delightful people of the island look for leadership but they cannot tell who is leader or master". Quoting from Milton's poem, *Lycidas*, he

Continued on back page, col 4

## London bombs charge

**By Richard Evans**

A man will appear at Marylebone court this morning in connexion with three IRA bombings in London two years ago.

Thomas Quigley, aged 28, of Glenalina Road, Belfast, was charged late yesterday afternoon at Paddington Green police station in west London where he has been held under armed guard since his arrest in Upper Falls Road, Belfast, last Friday.

The charge states that on various dates between August, 1981 and November 13, 1981 he unlawfully and maliciously conspired with other persons to cause by an explosive substance explosions of a nature likely to endanger life or cause injury to property.

## Radiation in silt near Sellafield

**By Ronald Faux**

Significant radiation has been discovered in silt at Maryport harbour, a few miles north of the nuclear fuel reprocessing plant at Sellafield (formerly Windscale) in Cumbria.

Five grammes of the silt inhaled as dust could contain the maximum advised annual dose of inhaled radiation, according to a scientist doing studies for the local authority.

Allerdale District Council was planning to dredge the silt, but it has been held by Dr Richard Scott of the Department of Molecular Biology at Edinburgh University that the silt would have to be loaded and transported when it was wet to minimise dust, the tyres of the transporting lorries would have to be washed down before they reached public roads, all loads would have to be covered, dust levels would need monitoring, and the workmen concerned treated as radiation workers and monitored accordingly.

Elsewhere, along an 11-mile stretch of shore between St Bee Head and the River Esk, monitoring by the Department of the Environment has uncovered fresh items of seaweed and other vegetation, plastic and string containing higher than normal radioactivity.

British Nuclear Fuels said last night that the method used for emptying tanks where radioactive material was held before discharge down the sea pipeline at Sellafield had now been modified (The Press Association reports).

Worries about contaminated fish in the Irish Sea have been tempered by new government figures showing that although there was a slight rise in radiation in fish caught near Sellafield, in 1981, levels fell by half between 1978 and 1982 (our Fleetwood Correspondent writes).

**The Importance of being Graham's**

GRAHAM'S Late Bottled Vintage 1978 PORT

**Tomorrow**

**Arap Moi...**  
Arap Moi's Kenya after 20 years of independence.

**le deluge**  
Friday Page meets a family engulfed by debt. Swinging. Six months after the election, the ups and downs of public opinion.

**Eighties**  
Social trends in Britain: education.

**Cell Block**  
The crisis of overcrowding in America's prisons.

## Oil fears push pound to new low

The pound fell sharply yesterday, touching \$1.4350 in New York before closing at a record low in London of \$1.4420, on oil price fears following reports of the Nigerian senate's vote in favour of leaving Opec. The stock market showed scant concern and continued its record-breaking run with the FT index closing up 5.4 at 753.6.

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## Olivier 'stable' after operation

Lord Olivier underwent a major kidney operation, lasting two hours at St Thomas's Hospital, London. The actor's agent, Mr Lawrence Evans, said: "It was successful and Lord Olivier is in a stable condition."

## Gallery design

A new design for the National Gallery extension has been unveiled after a controversial competition in which none of the entries proved acceptable.

Page 2

## Holyoake dies

Sir Keith Holyoake the former Governor General and Prime Minister of New Zealand, has died in hospital, at the age of 79.



## Art for tender

What is thought to be the first fine art sale by tender, of an eighteenth century portrait, may produce a record price.

Page 14

## Nuclear fiction

The nuclear disaster film *The Day After* is fiction and needs no balancing material. IBA sources say in rejecting Mr Michael Heseltine's demand for a right of reply.

Page 2

## World Cup

England and Northern Ireland will share one group and Scotland and Wales will share another in the qualify round of the 1986 World Cup.

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Leader page, 13

Letters: On Central America, from Mr J W Middendorf; conveyancing, from Mr G Lee, and Mr P Randall; unemployment, from Mr R Hurst.

Leading articles: EEC; Mr Heseltine and *The Day After*; Soviet press conferences.

Features, pages 10, 12

The case for televising Parliament; East German war jitters; a National Gallery extension that will satisfy no one; Profile: Lord Carrington.

Books, page 11

Sandy Wilson plays the lyrics of Cole Porter and Noel Coward; Woodrow Wyatt, on whales.

Obituary, page 14

Miss Muriel St Clare Byrne, Mr Digby Morton

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# Tory MEPs protest at Thatcher restraint on pre-election spending

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

The Prime Minister has upset Conservative members of the European Parliament, at a sensitive time, by trying to restrict spending of Community funds on promoting next year's elections to the parliament.

The Conservatives are entitled to spend about £2.8m of Community money, on the authority of the parliament, to spread information about its workings in advance of the elections, to be held on June 14.

They are not allowed to spend the funds on campaigning, and the parliament's rules stipulate that the expenditure must cease 40 days before polling, by May 5.

But Mrs Margaret Thatcher is insisting that the spending from Community funds must stop much earlier. On her behalf the party chairman, Mr John Gummer, has proposed to the 60 British Conservative MEPs that the cut-off date should be March 14.

The group thinks that would be foolish, and its feelings are aggravated by the more serious complaint that they are out of touch with Mrs Thatcher and

unable to influence her attitudes.

She has not met the MEPs as a group since March and has no plans to meet them again, although in its view and that of some of the Prime Minister's advisers it is in her interests that they should fully share her thinking, and she hears.

Their role at Strasbourg in the next few weeks, when the parliament is bound to reconsider whether to freeze Britain's promised rebate, may be crucial.

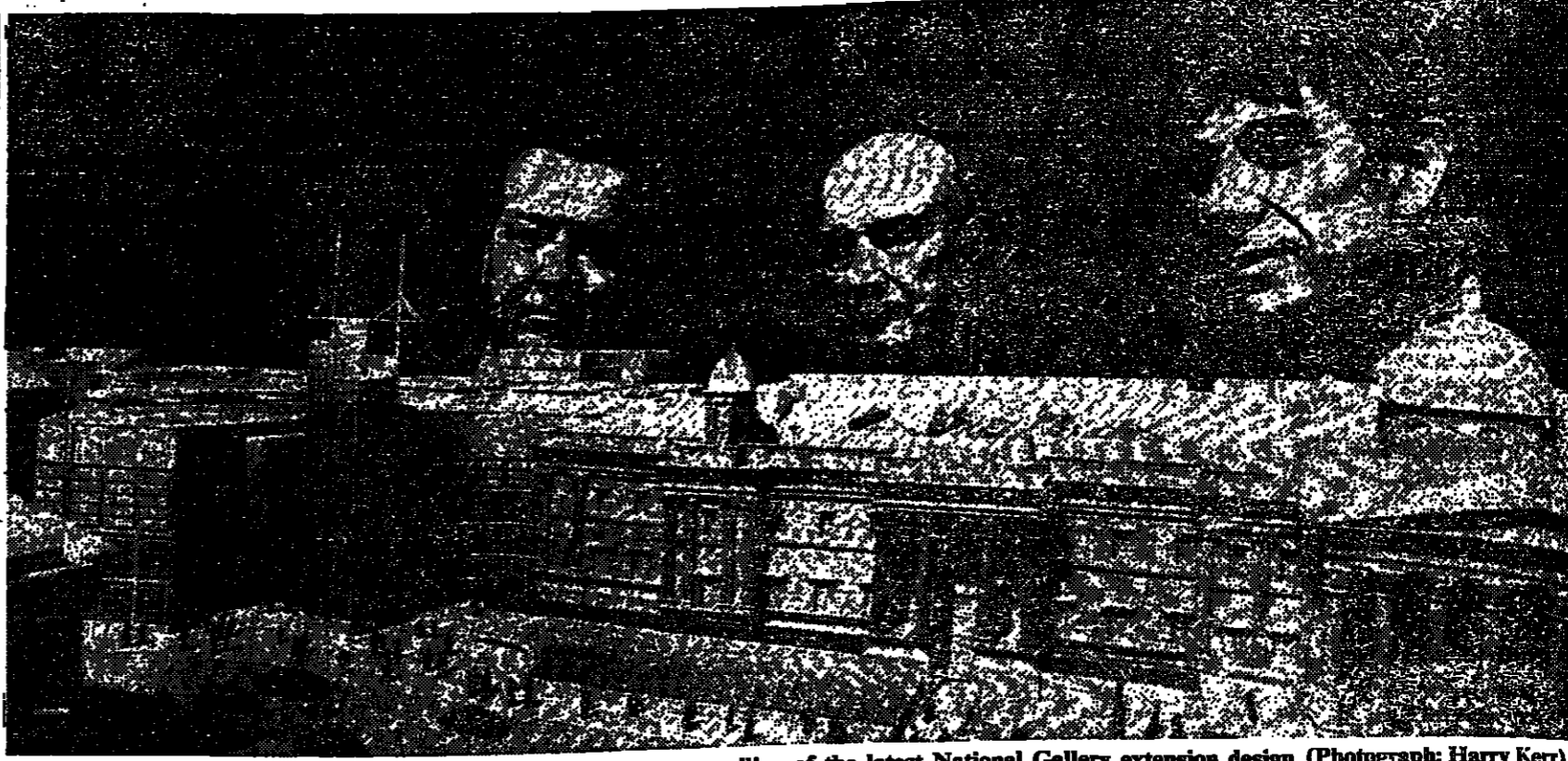
Yet some MEPs complained yesterday that the Prime Minister was "trying to run them, through Mr Gummer, by remote control". This was not good enough.

The Prime Minister's motives in restricting pre-election expenditure appear mixed. Her habitual reluctance to spend public money seems to be the main one. But she also fears that the electorate may think it unfair that the Conservatives have far more to spend than other British parties.

The allocation favours those parties which did best in the 1979 election. Labour, with 17 MEPs, expects to have more than £600,000 to spend. The Liberals, with no British MEPs, are likely to have about £250,000 given them by the European Liberal Democratic Group. The Social Democrats will have nothing for pre-campaign expenditure.

Conservative treasurers, who have to raise funds for the campaign proper, have suggested that industrialists may be reluctant to answer appeals if the party seems flush with Euro money. But the MEPs believe that industry, being hard-headed, will expect the party to use all available community cash before asking for more.

They have also told the Prime Minister that the most wasteful use of public funds would be to spend upwards of £2m in an effort to increase public awareness of the parliament and the elections, and allow interest to lapse during a seven-week hiatus.



Mr Nigel Brookes, Lord Anman and Mr Peter Ahrends at the unveiling of the latest National Gallery extension design (Photograph: Harry Kerr).

# Another new look for National Gallery

By John Young

A new and possibly final plan for the long delayed National Gallery extension was made public yesterday.

It consists of 17 galleries, linked to the main gallery floor of the present building, with three floors of offices underneath, one of them below ground level.

The design is by the architects Ahrends, Burton and Koralek, who were nominated by the Government last year to produce a new scheme after a controversial and indecisive competition. The gallery trustees made it clear at the time that they favoured a rival design by Skid-

more, Owings and Merrill, but they were overruled by a majority decision of the judging panel.

The latest plan, which bears obvious signs of a compromise, incorporates a so-called tower of less than 100 ft, surmounted by aluminium masts intended to complement the spire of St Martin in the Fields nearby.

It also includes a circular internal courtyard and sunken garden, which are said to have found favour with the assessors and the public at the time the competition designs were on view. The external walls

would be clad in Bath and Portland stone and in glass.

The prospective developers are Trafalgar House, whose chairman, Mr Nigel Brookes, said that his firm would probably occupy the lower floors.

Trafalgar House will apply to Westminster City Council for planning permission next week. The application will then be called in by Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, and a public inquiry is scheduled for next April.

Lord Anman, chairman of the trustees and formerly a strong

supporter of the Skidmore design, said yesterday that he hoped the extension could be completed by the end of 1987.

The trustees had expressed reservations about the stepped profile of the top of the tower and the most structure above it, he said. But they were entirely satisfied with the space provided for the gallery and the layout of the rooms, which would house its collection of Early Renaissance paintings, probably the finest and most representative in the world.

No one satisfied, page 12

# BSC losses cut to £2.6m a week

By John Lawless

British Steel's losses of well over £1m a day at the beginning of this year have been cut by almost three-quarters. They are now said to be running at £2.6m a week.

That compares with £9m a week for January, and a figure of £3.5m a week quoted only last month by the BSC's new chairman, Mr Robert Haslam, when writing in *Spectator*. Mr Haslam based his figure on an annual rate of loss of £180m since April.

But, BSC said when declaring its latest results yesterday, the obvious improvement in performance had to be balanced against "the fragility of prices throughout Europe", which will increase its trading losses in the second half of the year.

For the six months to the end of September, losses were £73m on home orders of £1,057m and exports of £377m. That was more than half the £156m deficit for the same period of 1982, when turnover was slightly higher.

Mr Robert Haslam, BSC chairman, said: "The major worry is the vast surpluses of steel-making capacity in Europe and the way they have been driving prices down in recent weeks. We are now selling at 1979 prices with 1983 costs and this cannot go on."

Although the BSC says that "strenuous efforts" to achieve further cost reductions and performance improvements continue, that is not thought to be a hint that it is looking for another drastic round of job cuts. Its workforce of 166,000 in 1980, is down to 73,000.

The British Government is campaigning to get the Germans, Italians and Belgians in particular to follow its rationalization path.

The BSC half-yearly statement declares: "The need for an effective European steel regime, to maintain discipline in the market, and the exchange rates for sterling continue to be critical to the achievements of targets for the year."

# Confusion on Varley successor

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mr Eric Varley, the former Labour Cabinet minister who is to leave the Commons to go into business, is also to give up his post of treasurer of the Labour Party in January.

There was confusion over his likely successor last night after Mr Sam McCuskie, treasurer and assistant general secretary of the National Union of Seamen, said that he would accept nomination for the post.

Labour Party headquarters made clear, however, that under the party constitution Mr Albert Booth, the former MP, whom Mr Varley beat in the election for treasurer, should take over automatically.

The constitution states that any vacancy in any division of the national executive should be filled by the cooption of the unsuccessful candidate in that division who had most votes. That would clearly be Mr Booth and party officials have been given to understand that he would be interested in the post.

# 40 held as Nalگو homes talks collapse

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

At least 40 demonstrators were arrested in London yesterday as talks to prevent mass closure of homes for children, the elderly and the handicapped at Christmas collapsed.

As part of a "day of action" thousands of people lobbied negotiations between leaders of 25,000 residential social workers and local authorities.

Police clashed with the demonstrators, members of the National and Local Government Officers' Association (Nalگو), stopping them from marching into Belgrave Square, where talks were being held, and the arrests were made.

The breakdown in the talks means the homes face a Christmas of severe disruption. Last night Nalگو said it would press ahead with a ballot of members seeking to extend action which already includes stoppages and closures.

The workers are voting on whether to restrict working to a nine-to-five five-day week throughout Britain. Nalگو is confident there will be a mandate for fresh disruption.

Employers made what they regarded as a concession yesterday by offering to include

# French milk meets a sales veto

By David Hewson

The consignment of long life milk from France that has been the subject of dairy industry protests has been allowed to enter Britain; but the importer has been told that it must not be offered for sale yet.

Tests conducted on the milk since it arrived at Newhaven, East Sussex, last Thursday are understood to have shown that it contains too much water. The importers have promised not to sell the milk until further analysis can be carried out.

Newhaven port health authority said that the importers of the 20,000 litres of semi-skimmed milk had been told that selling it would contravene the Food and Drugs Act.

A Nalگو spokesman said last night he was sure that members would vote for the action and that the employers could not negotiate because they were acting under government instruction.

Nalگو estimated that about 15,000 demonstrated yesterday "which showed the strength of feeling among the membership numbers at 6,500.

# Nuclear film needs no reply, IBA says

By David Hewson

The Independent Broadcasting Authority will not provide any other right of reply to balance the nuclear disaster film *The Day After* if Mr Michael Heseltine does not take part in the discussion which will follow screening of the programme on Saturday.

The authority regards the film as fiction which does not require other material to provide balance.

Mr Heseltine, the Secretary of State for Defence, has objected to the United States programme because he says it misrepresents nuclear deterrence, and he has written to the IBA asking for the opportunity to redress the bias.

Yorkshire Television has invited him to appear in the discussion programme, but it is understood that he is pressing to appear in a separate interview immediately after the film is screened.

Few of Britain's houses will remain standing after a major nuclear attack, according to a report which casts strong doubt on the Government's civil defence policy (Pat Healy writes).

The report, from the Building and Social Housing Foundation, based in Coalville, Leicestershire, says that most houses will be destroyed or rendered uninhabitable by blast and fire.

It says existing houses can provide only limited protection

# BBC staff attack Dimbleby

Journalists at BBC Television yesterday condemned Mr David Dimbleby, the broadcaster and owner of the *Richmond and Twickenham Times*, for taking their union to court.

The television news branch of the National Union of Journalists (NUJ) backed the union's national executive in defying an injunction granted to Mr Dimbleby to stop an NUJ strike at his newspaper group.

The union is expected to appeal to the House of Lords. Journalists at Mr Dimbleby's papers are on strike because he transferred printing of the titles to the non-union TBF Printers, which is associated with T. Bailey Forman with whom the NUJ has a long-standing dispute.

# Nott attacks Pym for 'pessimistic' speech

Sir John Nott, the new Cabinet minister, yesterday accused Mr Francis Pym of a misleading reading of the national condition in his controversial Oxford speech calling for wiser political leadership.

Sir John, now a director of Lazard Brothers, the merchant bank, retired from Parliament in June. He made an unusually strong personal criticism of Mr Pym in a speech to the City Liaison Group.

He said that Mr Pym had encapsulated in his speech "that most damaging post-war contribution of the British establishment pessimism." If the flame of public confidence had just begun to flicker, Sir John said, "Francis seems to do his best to do it."

He said the happiest moment of his political career had been when Mrs Margaret Thatcher became the party leader, and he

# Coach driver in M5 death crash fined £385

The driver of a coach that crashed on the M5 at Callington, Devon, in June, killing a teacher and seriously injuring 20 children, told a special sitting of magistrates in the town yesterday that the crash had been "a ghastly experience".

Alan Johnson, aged 34, from Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria, said that he had tried to avoid the collision in which Mrs Delicia Moss, aged 28, died.

He was found guilty of careless driving. He also admitted exceeding the 70 mph speed limit and failing to switch on the coach's tachograph. He was fined a total of £385.

In all, 40 children and three other adults on the trip from the Lakes School, near Windermere, were hurt when the coach collided with a parked lorry.

The lorry driver, Kevin Pavy, from Taunton, was fined at an earlier hearing after admitting parking on the motorway hard shoulder.

# £14,000 for steer

The supreme champion of the Smithfield Show, a cross bred Charolais-Aberdeen Angus steer weighing 1,250lb, was auctioned yesterday for £14,000, equal to last year's record price. The animal was owned by Mr John Lascalles, of Carmouistie, Angus.

# Shell peace move

Craftsmen at Shell's refinery in Haverly, Cheshire, voted yesterday to end their eight-week wage dispute and return to work tomorrow unless their transport union colleagues, meeting today, reject the 6.2 per cent offer.

# TV home fire

Fire yesterday destroyed the council house in Reading, Berkshire, of the Wilkins family, who appeared in the BBC's 1970s documentary, *The Family*, now being repeated on BBC 2. Mr Christopher Wilkins, aged 19, was seriously injured jumping from a window.

# NGA and Shah resume peace talks

Peace talks aimed at ending the closed shop dispute between the National Graphical Association and *Manchester Evening News* resumed in Manchester last night.

Mr Selim ("Eddie") Shah is due back in the High Court tomorrow to pursue further complaints against the NGA which could result in heavy fines against the print union for last week's violent picketing in Warrington, Cheshire.

The negotiations, at the

# Speaker's new suit

The Speaker of the House of Commons, Mr Bernard Weatherill, wearing the new court dress suit presented to him yesterday by the Federation of Merchant Tailors, Mr Weatherill is a former tailor.

**STOP PRESS.**

**GULF AIR ARE ADDING SPECIAL HOLIDAY FLIGHTS TO THEIR SCHEDULE ON DECEMBER 14 AND DECEMBER 21. SO NOW WE HAVE PLENTY OF SPACE AVAILABLE. GET BACK TO THE GULF IN TIME FOR THE HOLIDAY. BOOK NOW.**

طيران الخليج  
**GULF AIR**  
Spread your wings

**Sale room**

**Top price rarities**

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Rooms Correspondent

Rarities selling for auction price records have been the order of the day in the United States and Britain in the past 24 hours.

In London, Sotheby's sold the most important painting by Gustav Klimt, presiding genius of the Vienna Secession, to be seen on the market for many years for £682,000 (estimate £600,000-£800,000). It depicts a medieval knight in gold armour on a black horse and is titled "Das Leben ein Kampf".

Phillips secured an auction record for a platform ticket at £374 (estimate £60-£120). The ticket allows the bear access to platforms of Ludgate Hill, Station on the South-Eastern and Chatham line.

Phillips also secured £1,870 (estimate £100-£200) for a Merkin clockwork handpainted electric tram car, dating from before the First World War.

Sotheby's in New York set an auction record for Chinese jade, selling a brownish-yellow bell-shaped pendant mask of the Warring States Period for \$396,000 (£270,307).

At Barnes, Torquay, Koopman headed a consortium of three London dealers who paid £49,500 for a Victorian porcelain table service designed by A. A. Wilkins in the Pompeian manner and shown at the International Exhibition of 1862.

It comprises five candlebrads, two winecoolers and 12 stand supporting dishes of various sizes. It was a gift from the Midland Railway Company to S. Beale, Esq, MP, its chairman, in 1864.

Masterpiece of reader, page 14

# Korchnoi's stamina and resistance weaken

By Harry Golombek, Chess Correspondent

The Hungarian grandmaster Zoltan Ribli resigned the seventh game against Vassily Smyslov in the Acorn Computers World Championship semi-finals in London on Tuesday without resuming play.

This had been adjourned after Smyslov's forty-second move and Ribli sealed the move 42... Q-R8 ch. It was obvious, however, that Smyslov's king would soon escape the checks, after which Ribli's position was hopeless. His resignation made the score Smyslov 4½, Ribli 2½. This meant that the former world champion needed only two more points to win the match.

In the other semi-final, Victor Korchnoi's stamina and resistance appear to be weakening. His loss of the sixth game was significant and his play in the seventh game on Tuesday confirmed this weakness.

Kasparov opened with the Catalan System, as he had done on a number of occasions and Korchnoi adopted a simple, almost naive, way of meeting it with the result that by move 15 Kasparov enjoyed a small but clear advantage with his King's bishop exerting much pressure along the long diagonal.

On move 16 Kasparov made a fine pawn sacrifice that opened up fresh lines for his pieces. He soon regained the pawn and for good measure by move 21 he was a pawn up with his bishop now sweeping the whole diagonal.

Up to this point Korchnoi had been making moves more quickly than his opponent, but from now on he played at almost lightning speed in an attempt to hustle Kasparov.

Seventh game  
White: Kasparov, Black: Korchnoi  
Q.G.D. Catalan System

|         |       |          |       |
|---------|-------|----------|-------|
| 1-P-04  | H-033 | 24-P-024 | H-033 |
| 2-P-024 | P-033 | 25-P-011 | H-034 |
| 3-P-002 | P-044 | 26-P-007 | H-031 |
| 4-B-02  | P-02  | 27-P-017 | H-032 |
| 5-B-003 | B-02  | 28-B-004 | H-033 |
| 6-C-03  | P-04  | 29-B-004 | H-034 |
| 7-O-O   | B-03  | 30-P-015 | H-035 |
| 8-Q-09  | Q-02  | 31-P-016 | H-036 |
| 9-B-05  | H-01  | 32-K-02  | H-037 |
| 10-B-04 | H-02  | 33-P-015 | H-038 |
| 11-P-02 | H-03  | 34-P-016 | H-039 |
| 12-B-06 | H-04  | 35-P-016 | H-040 |
| 13-B-02 | H-05  | 36-P-016 | H-041 |
| 14-B-02 | H-06  | 37-P-016 | H-042 |
| 15-P-04 | H-07  | 38-P-016 | H-043 |
| 16-P-04 | H-08  | 39-P-016 | H-044 |
| 17-P-04 | H-09  | 40-P-016 | H-045 |
| 18-P-04 | H-10  | 41-P-016 | H-046 |
| 19-P-04 | H-11  | 42-P-016 | H-047 |
| 20-P-04 | H-12  | 43-P-016 | H-048 |
| 21-P-04 | H-13  | 44-P-016 | H-049 |
| 22-P-04 | H-14  | 45-P-016 | H-050 |
| 23-P-04 | H-15  | 46-P-016 | H-051 |

Overseas selling prices  
Algebra Notation: P= Pawn, B= Bishop, K= King, Q= Queen, R= Rook, N= Knight, O= Pawn Promotion, H= Half Move, C= Castling, P-000= Pawn to Square 0, P-001= Pawn to Square 1, P-002= Pawn to Square 2, P-003= Pawn to Square 3, P-004= Pawn to Square 4, P-005= Pawn to Square 5, P-006= Pawn to Square 6, P-007= Pawn to Square 7, P-008= Pawn to Square 8, P-009= Pawn to Square 9, P-010= Pawn to Square 10, P-011= Pawn to Square 11, P-012= Pawn to Square 12, P-013= Pawn to Square 13, P-014= Pawn to Square 14, P-015= Pawn to Square 15, P-016= Pawn to Square 16, P-017= Pawn to Square 17, P-018= Pawn to Square 18, P-019= Pawn to Square 19, P-020= Pawn to Square 20, P-021= Pawn to Square 21, P-022= Pawn to Square 22, P-023= Pawn to Square 23, P-024= Pawn to Square 24, P-025= Pawn to Square 25, P-026= Pawn to Square 26, P-027= Pawn to Square 27, P-028= Pawn to Square 28, P-029= Pawn to Square 29, P-030= Pawn to Square 30, P-031= Pawn to Square 31, P-032= Pawn to Square 32, P-033= Pawn to Square 33, P-034= Pawn to Square 34, P-035= Pawn to Square 35, P-036= Pawn to Square 36, P-037= Pawn to Square 37, P-038= Pawn to Square 38, P-039= Pawn to Square 39, P-040= Pawn to Square 40, P-041= Pawn to Square 41, P-042= Pawn to Square 42, P-043= Pawn to Square 43, P-044= Pawn to Square 44, P-045= Pawn to Square 45, P-046= Pawn to Square 46, P-047= Pawn to Square 47, P-048= Pawn to Square 48, P-049= Pawn to Square 49, P-050= Pawn to Square 50, P-051= Pawn to Square 51, P-052= Pawn to Square 52, P-053= Pawn to Square 53, P-054= Pawn to Square 54, P-055= Pawn to Square 55, P-056= Pawn to Square 56, P-057= Pawn to Square 57, P-058= Pawn to Square 58, P-059= Pawn to Square 59, P-060= Pawn to Square 60, P-061= Pawn to Square 61, P-062= Pawn to Square 62, P-063= Pawn to Square 63, P-064= Pawn to Square 64, P-065= Pawn to Square 65, P-066= Pawn to Square 66, P-067= Pawn to Square 67, P-068= Pawn to Square 68, P-069= Pawn to Square 69, P-070= Pawn to Square 70, P-071= Pawn to Square 71, P-072= Pawn to Square 72, P-073= Pawn to Square 73, P-074= Pawn to Square 74, P-075= Pawn to Square 75, P-076= Pawn to Square 76, P-077= Pawn to Square 77, P-078= Pawn to Square 78, P-079= Pawn to Square 79, P-080= Pawn to Square 80, P-081= Pawn to Square 81, P-082= Pawn to Square 82, P-083= Pawn to Square 83, P-084= Pawn to Square 84, P-085= Pawn to Square 85, P-086= Pawn to Square 86, P-087= Pawn to Square 87, P-088= Pawn to Square 88, P-089= Pawn to Square 89, P-090= Pawn to Square 90, P-091= Pawn to Square 91, P-092= Pawn to Square 92, P-093= Pawn to Square 93, P-094= Pawn to Square 94, P-095= Pawn to Square 95, P-096= Pawn to Square 96, P-097= Pawn to Square 97, P-098= Pawn to Square 98, P-099= Pawn to Square 99, P-100= Pawn to Square 100.

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Social trends: 1

Nation of greater material wealth but less emotional stability

By Nicholas Timmins

A nation with more divorce, more illegitimate births, more people living alone, and a wider income gap between unemployed and employed families emerge today from Social Trends, the Government's annual view of British life.
The Central Statistical Office's compendium also shows a small rise in real incomes last year and more people owning their houses and deep freezers, colour televisions, dishwashers, washing machines and cars.

British at play: Hard-drinking sportsmen

By Kenneth Gosling

Leisure last year was dominated by outdoor activities, more people taking part in sports such as squash, swimming and tennis than going to greyhound or horse races, football or cricket matches.
Many so-called minority sports were much more popular than in 1971; badminton, for example, had 109,000 club players against 66,000 in 1971, while there were 50,000 amateur boxers, an increase of 20,000.

Attendances at sporting events

Table with 2 columns: Year (1982, 1971) and Attendances (000s). Rows include Football League matches, English, Scottish, Welsh, and Motor sports.

Cinema attendances

Table with 2 columns: Year (1982, 1971) and Cinema attendances. Rows include Cinema screens, Admissions, and Average charge.

The number of cinemas has fallen from 1,420 in 1971 to 893 last year, but the number of screens has remained almost constant with the advent of multi-screen complexes.

Holidays

Table with 2 columns: Year (1982, 1971) and Holidays taken by residents of Great Britain. Rows include In Great Britain and Abroad.

Four or more days away from home considered by the respondent to be a holiday.

Source: British Tourist Authority

Gambling attracted fewer people. Although the estimated amount of money staked in gambling clubs in the year ended August 1982 was £1,007m compared with £930m the previous year, the number of clubs had fallen from 126 to 117.
Fewer holidays were taken last year but more of them were spent abroad: up from 13 million to 14 million. Spain remained the most popular destination overseas, its share of total foreign holidays rising from 26 per cent in 1981 to 30 per cent last year.

The only destination to show a substantial fall in its share was the United States.

And although, next to alcohol, people spent most of their spare cash on television, radio and musical instruments, households with gross weekly income of £240 or more spent a greater amount on their holidays.

The British continued to buy, borrow and read books; but they also used libraries to take out video tapes when they became available. More than 14 million issues were made in 1981-82.

Tomorrow: Education. What people earn, page 17

Wife sees heart-lung transplant patient

By Thomson Prentice, Medical Reporter

Less than 24 hours after his operation, Lars Ljungberg, aged 32, took a breath with his new lungs yesterday and waved to his wife to signal the initial success of Britain's first combined heart and lungs transplant.
Later she was able to join him at his bedside and they spoke briefly.

Straw burning code urged

Landowners yesterday called on the Government to publish before Christmas its new model by-law on straw burning to ensure there is enough time for local authorities to enforce it during next year's harvest.

Mr John Norris, of the 50,000-member Country Landowners' Association, said that without straw burning there would be a drop in the proportion of winter sown cereals which had been responsible for record yields.

"It is a practice which has therefore been of great economic benefit to cereal growers and its continuation is crucial to successful cereal production.

Hansard goes on computer

By Bill Johnstone, Electronics Correspondent

The text of the House of Commons Official Report, Hansard, the record of parliamentary debates and business, is being made available on computer terminals.
The service offered by the British computer software (programs) group, Seicon, is an extension of the system that the company began in late 1980 listing indexes of Hansard entries. That system acquired the acronym Polis (Parliamentary On-Line Information Service).

Seicon has more than 100 clients outside the Commons attached to its network. They are in central and local government, the trade and professional institutions, the media, business, and academic life.

According to the computer group, a market survey in the autumn of last year indicated that there was an appreciable demand by those who used the index service to have access to the full text on screen.

The text available is intended to start on November 3, 1982, when the last session of Parliament began.

The group's computer is based in Milton Keynes in Buckinghamshire and the Hansard files will be updated each day.

Conflict over 'fresh' milk

A dairy farmer who labelled as "fresh" milk supplied straight from the cow to the customer has been told he may lose his licence unless he removes the offending word.
Mr Hugh Blackburne was warned by the Ministry of Agriculture after he began to sell milk that was not bought by the big dairies from his farm in Hales, Surrey. It was labelled "Fresh Jersey milk" and "Raw and unpasteurized".

Meat import warning to shoppers

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

The Ministry of Agriculture has issued a warning that people returning from Christmas shopping expeditions abroad must declare all uncooked meats and meat products to Customs.
There have been a number of outbreaks of swine fever and other animal diseases on the Continent and it is feared that products which are quite safe for human consumption could spread infection to Britain.



The Princess of Wales during a visit yesterday to the Queen Elizabeth II Silver Jubilee Activities Centre at Bursledon, near Southampton, which provides sports for disabled people.

Sales boom may save post offices

By Bill Johnstone, Electronics Correspondent

The success of counter services created by the Post Office in the past year, including the sale of bus passes, travellers' cheques and items from mail order catalogues, could relieve many of the post offices threatened with closure because of unprofitability.
The new services will be crucial to the Post Office's decision to close 1,609 of the 9,533 town sub-post offices. The decisions on these findings, the result of a three-month Post Office study, are to be made in the new year. The survey was the first comprehensive one on post offices to be conducted in 20 years.

About 269 main offices are believed to be marginal in their commercial performance, with 172 making a loss.
More than 2.5 million bus passes are now being sold every year through post offices. In London one million pensioners' passes are sold, while about the same number for all age groups are being sold in West Yorkshire.

The Post Office has introduced the new services to compensate for revenue lost through the decision two years ago to pay social security benefits directly by cheque.

Customers can now order goods from some mail order catalogues at post offices using Transach service, and extension of Girobank.

Items advertised in special television campaigns can now be purchased at post offices through a service called Teleshop. These goods include general household products and have been advertised in the Grampian, Border, Tyne-Tees, Yorkshire and Television South-West regions.

Sterling travellers' cheques and a photographic service called Bonusprint are also available in most of the 20,000 post offices.

Diana Dors postpones writ over fan mail

By Bill Johnstone, Electronics Correspondent

Miss Diana Dors yesterday adjourned her application for an injunction against her employers at TV-am over 3,000 fan mail letters for one week, in the hope that they can settle the matter out of court.
She had issued a High Court writ for the company to return the letters, many of which requested a diet calculator she used in her recent "fight against flesh" on the Good Morning Britain show.



Diana Dors: Dispute with TV-am

The dispute started when Miss Dors gave the brand name of the calculator, which she said was her "secret weapon" which helped her to lose 54lb.

She said yesterday: "I have no financial interest in the calculator at all. But TV-am, who sponsored my diet, said I was breaking IBA rules by illegally advertising in normal air time and the letters belonged to them.

"I have apologized to them if I was breaking any rules and even offered to resign but they said 'no'. They told me my show had boosted them in the ratings. I shall be going into work as normal this Friday. Nobody has told me not to."

Less bread eaten at home

Consumption of bread in British homes has fallen by more than 40 per cent in the past 30 years, although 10 million large loaves are still eaten daily, according to a report published yesterday.
In Britain consumption of bread a week has fallen from 56oz in 1954 to less than 32oz last year. During this time, however, the population has increased from 51 million to 55 million and "considerably more bread is now eaten outside the home", according to the Federation of Bakers.

The amount of bread eaten in canteens, cafes, restaurants, pubs and so on has been growing over recent years and may now be equivalent to about 20 per cent of the household figure, the report said.

The Welsh eat more bread than anyone else in Britain, consuming 36.8oz a head a week, followed by the Scots at 35.2oz. The least bread is eaten in the South-east and in East Anglia - 27.6oz a head. Brown bread accounts for less than 18 per cent of total sales.

Coward plays for Radio 4

Five Noel Coward plays, Blithe Spirit, Hay Fever, Brief Encounter, Private Lives, and Design for Living, are among Radio 4 Christmas programmes, announced yesterday.
Repeats of the popular Quote, Unquote, Desert Island Discs, Just a Minute and Down Your Way programmes will be heard each weekday over the holiday periods. They are among the most requested shows, the BBC said.

Charities given bank building

National Westminster Bank is giving a five-storey building in Brixton, south London, valued at £500,000, to a group of charities to be used for helping and educating disabled people. The bank had used the building as a computer centre.
The donation is the largest single allocation from the bank's £1.2m inner city development programme which will be fully assigned by next April.

Fire kills baby

Julie McKnight, aged one, was killed and her two sisters were injured when a fire swept a flat in Lower Line Road, Oldham, Greater Manchester, yesterday.

Advertisement for Bang & Olufsen televisions. Features include: CHECK THE VALUE INTEREST-FREE CREDIT from as little as... £35 down plus 11 monthly payments of £35. (Beovision 5102, cash price £420.) Full details of zero-interest credit terms for Bother Beovision models are available from your Bang & Olufsen dealer. CHECK THE FEATURES: Luxury 29-function remote control, Direct access digital tuning, Memory storage of up to 30 channels, Clear, sharp picture with automatic colour balance, High-bright 30AX in-line tube, Top quality sound circuitry, Full 3-year parts and labour guarantee. CHECK THE OPTIONS: 9 different Bang & Olufsen high-tech COLOUR TV's offering 20", 22" or 26" screen, Mono or stereo sound systems, Teletext built-in or add-on, Classic cabinets in teak, rosewood or grey finish. Bang & Olufsen. Credit offered to UK residents only, and subject to status. Products offered subject to availability. Offer valid until 31st January 1984.

Advertisement for HEAL'S. BARGAIN BASEMENT. ... DUE TO RECONSTRUCTION WORK WE'VE PUT HEAPS OF BARGAINS IN THE BASEMENT BUT IT'S BUSINESS AS USUAL. HEAL'S. HEAL'S 196 TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD LONDON W1.



# Nuclear reactor will be economic disaster, professor tells inquiry

Electricity will cost more if the Central Electricity Generating Board builds a pressurized water reactor (PWR) at Sizewell, the public inquiry into the board's £1200m proposal was told yesterday by Professor Jim Jeffrey, an expert on energy economics.

Professor Jeffrey, Professor of Crystallography at London University, claimed the board's economic case for the PWR was invalid on a number of key assumptions. If Sizewell B was built, it would generate electricity at a considerable loss.

Basing his analysis on a detailed examination of the board's calculations, Professor Jeffrey said: "In view of the uncertainties and improp-

# Prisoner to challenge parole ban in court

The Home Secretary's ruling that certain prisoners jailed for more than five years cannot be granted parole until a few months before the end of their sentences is to be challenged in the High Court.

Edward Findlay, who is serving seven years for robbery, was given permission by Mr Justice Woolf in the High Court yesterday to proceed with a test case.

Mr Edward Fitzgerald, for Findlay, who is at Long Lartin Prison, Hereford and Worcester, said they wanted the court to review the Home Secretary's policy decision last month that any prisoner serving a fixed term sentence of more than five years for offences of violence should be granted parole only a few months before the end of his sentence, unless the circumstances were genuinely exceptional.

They seek a declaration that the policy is unlawful and contravenes the Criminal Justice Act, 1967.

They also seek a declaration that Findlay is entitled to have his case for parole considered on its merits, and an order prohibiting the Home Secretary from applying the new policy.

The judge said it was a case that should be argued fully.

Fixed term prisoners are usually eligible for parole after completion of a third of their sentences or 12 months, whichever is longer.



Waxen Chancellor: Karen Newman with her wax sculpture of Dr. Helmut Kohl, the West German Chancellor, which went on show at Madame Tussaud's in London yesterday. Dr Kohl gave clothes from his wardrobe to dress it (Photograph: John Manning).

# Season's greetings 1,300 million times

A record 1,300 million Christmas cards, almost two dozen for every British man, woman and child, are likely to be posted this year, the greeting card industry's trade association said yesterday.

Charities are aiming to capture a quarter of the market.

Last year, 1,160 million Christmas cards were sold at a cost of 280m. Of those, 240 million were charity cards, which raised £30m.

The charities' share of the market is expected to increase by between 10 and 30 per cent this year, largely because of more professional marketing techniques.

Where once cards were sold in small shops or from catalogues posted with samples, the public is now inundated with glossy colour catalogues, mail order brochures and billboards that are the climax of a year's campaign.

The Imperial Cancer Research Fund believes its estimated £900,000 turnover of cards and gifts this year is because of a more aggressive public relations campaign that has included gift sales and publicity about its research.

Charities are also making use of mass mailing lists and computerized record-keeping and are seeking advice from advertising agencies.

Christmas cards account for almost two-thirds of card sales, but only a third of all greeting card spending.

The average Christmas card now costs 7p, although those sold for charity are usually more expensive. The profit margin on all greeting cards averages 40 per cent.

The prediction of record sales this year comes from the Greeting Card and Calendar Association, which can offer a wealth of interesting facts, as well as sales figures.

For example, it reports that the Prime Minister sends about 2,000 Christmas cards each year, while President Reagan "signs" nearly 60,000.

The tiniest Christmas card was allegedly inscribed on a grain of rice and sent to the Prince of Wales in 1929, while the most valuable must have been that sent by the Gackwar of Baroda to an Englishwoman of his affections.

Made of ivory and decorated with 44 diamonds, the card took six months to make and was said to be worth £500,000 eighty years ago.

The first Christmas card, according to the association, was devised by Sir Henry Cole in 1843 because he had forgotten to send the traditional Christmas letter to his friends. Mechanically printed, but hand-tinted, cards struck him as a reasonable last-minute substitute: the left-over cards were sold in Old Bond Street at a shilling a time, and the rest is history.

# India lifts ban on Sikh editor

Mr Tarsem Singh Purewal, editor of a leading Sikh newspaper in Britain, who was arrested and deported from India during a visit to his dying mother last month, is being allowed to return on compassionate grounds. But the Indian Government's decision to allow him an entry permit for two weeks has come too late for him to return to his mother's bedside. She died on November 26 after an operation for cancer of the pancreas.

Mr Purewal, who owns and edits the *Des Pardes* weekly which has a circulation of 35,000 in Britain, northern Europe and Canada, heard from the Foreign Office in London yesterday that he would be allowed to visit Chandigarh from tomorrow until December 23. The Foreign Office got in touch with the Indian authorities after publication of details of Mr Purewal's deportation in *The Times*.

India has given no reasons for Mr Purewal's deportation although it is thought that it resents criticism of its conduct in his newspaper.

Mr Purewal said in London last night that he regretted that he was unable to be at his mother's bedside when she died. Because he was dragged away from the hospital ward by armed police, his mother had believed that he had been murdered by the authorities, he said.

# Wheat production sets new record

The 1983 United Kingdom cereals harvest totalled 21,370,000 tonnes, about 5 per cent down on last year, but still the second highest ever, according to the first complete official estimates published by the Home Grown Cereals Authority.

Wheat production set a new record of 10,826,000 tonnes, and the average yield was up from 6.2 to 6.4 tonnes a hectare. Yields are now some 40 per cent higher than the average throughout the 1970s partly because of a swing away from milling varieties towards high yielding feed varieties.

The total area planted to barley was down by 70,000 hectares, and average yield down from 4.93 to 4.66 tonnes a hectare, although the yield was still better than in 1980. The swing away from spring barley into winter varieties continues, in spite of the higher costs involved, because the winter crops are better able to withstand climatic vagaries like this year's very wet spring and exceptionally dry summer.

|           | ENGLAND & WALES |        | SCOTLAND |       | N.IRELAND |      |      |
|-----------|-----------------|--------|----------|-------|-----------|------|------|
|           | 1982            | 1983   | 1982     | 1983  | 1982      | 1983 |      |
| WHEAT     | Area            | 1,622  | 1,643    | 40    | 47        | 1.0  | 1.5  |
|           | Yield           | 6.18   | 6.40     | 7.20  | 6.39      | 5.83 | 5.71 |
|           | Prod            | 10,020 | 10,515   | 290   | 300       | 5.8  | 8.4  |
| BARLEY    | Area            | 1,719  | 1,855    | 465   | 451       | 47.1 | 48.3 |
|           | Yield           | 4.58   | 4.75     | 4.52  | 4.38      | 4.25 | 4.30 |
|           | Prod            | 8,514  | 7,861    | 2,240 | 1,966     | 200  | 196  |
| OATS      | Area            | 829    | 842      | 44*   | 65*       | 4.2  | 4.9  |
|           | Yield           | 890    | 813      | 411   | 386       | 42.9 | 41.4 |
|           | Prod            | 739    | 688      | 183   | 251       | 17.7 | 27.2 |
| TOTAL (a) | Area            | 3,452  | 3,391    | 526   | 524       | 51.7 | 51.4 |
|           | Yield           | 19,037 | 18,790   | 2,656 | 2,360     | 217  | 219  |
|           | Prod            | 19,037 | 18,790   | 2,656 | 2,360     | 217  | 219  |

\* Winter barley planting for Scotland are December census figures. The complete June census records the winter/spring split only in England, Wales and N. Ireland.

# Charities told to shun politics

Voluntary organizations should keep out of politics and resist government interference, the National Council for Voluntary Organizations has told its 360 members.

The council says there has been a 63 per cent increase in government grants to charities and voluntary organizations in recent years but it has been accompanied by more complaints about increasing government pressure on their work.

Guidance issued by the council says organizations should not attempt to influence the electoral process but should "assert and exercise their freedom to advocate changes or continuity in public policy, programmes and law".

Organizations should distinguish between "arm's length" support from government and "cont acts" with government.

# Headlines complaint rejected

Headlines in a *Daily Mail* election feature which spoke of Conservatives winning seats and Labour grabbing them were not misleading, the Press Council ruled today. Although it would have been more obviously impartial to have used the same word the newspaper was not bound to be impartial, the council says.

It rejected a complaint from Mr Barry Coppock, of Parkhill Road, Bexley, Kent, that the paper misleadingly and unfairly slanted the wording of headlines over similar sets of tables.

The managing editor, Mr Gordon Cowan, told Mr Coppock that there was nothing significant in the use of the word "grab". The newspaper merely wanted not to repeat the word "win", which had appeared in two headlines on the same page.

# Reith lecturer boosts open government lobby

Sir Douglas Wass, the former Permanent Secretary to the Treasury, came out in favour of open government last night with a fervour that could only embarrass the Prime Minister and Sir Robert Armstrong, Secretary of the Cabinet, with whom he served as Joint Head of the Home Civil Service until last Easter.

In the course of the 1983 BBC Reith lectures, Sir Douglas floated the idea of an external audit on open government which would monitor ministers' fulfilment of pledges to be more forthcoming with Parliament and the public.

The system would need an audit staff with full access to official files. The auditors would be empowered to alert Parliament in cases of unjustified suppression.

Ministers could be forced to defend their decisions to withhold information in closed session before a Commons select committee. Such a system would be costly to operate but

Sir Douglas said it merited serious study.

Sir Douglas' remarks, although they stopped well short of advocating a law to compel Whitehall to open up, represent a boost to the freedom of information lobby which is about to undergo a rebirth when Mr Des Wilson launches his 1984 campaign next month.

At Mrs Margaret Thatcher's behest, Sir Douglas' former colleague, Sir Robert Armstrong, has been trying to stem the pressure for more openness. He has circulated reminders in Whitehall about Britain's secrecy laws and conventions in an attempt to plug leaks.

Sir Douglas offered Sir Robert some comfort last night, however. He condemned leaks unequivocally and upbraided the press for being unscrupulous in its use of them.

But the deliberate publication of more information to raise the quality of public debate was necessary if government was to operate efficiently and responsibly, Sir Douglas added.



Gordon Selfridge helping to construct the Selfridge roof garden 1935.

# How British do you have to be to contribute to Britain?

Gordon Selfridge was an American retailer who came to Britain when he was 49 years old.

His investment in a department store in London made his name a household word throughout Britain. The Selfridge name is familiar today in high streets across the country.

In 1935 he celebrated the Silver Jubilee of King George V by adding a roof-garden to his Oxford Street store.

You don't have to have British parents to contribute to Britain.

IBM came to Britain in 1951 and has been investing here ever since.

We opened our first factory at Greenock on the Clyde and added a second at Havant on the Hampshire coast. Together, these provide 4,500 jobs, and their products are exported to 80 countries in Europe, Africa and the Middle East.

IBM has also invested in British research and development. In 1958 we bought a country house near Winchester and established there one of IBM's largest development laboratories in Europe. A laboratory where British scientists have developed IBM's first general purpose colour display and first intelligent terminal.

In the Midlands we established a centre that aids businesses by showing how computers help design new products and speed them to the manufacturing floor.


And on the South Bank of the Thames we have just moved into a new office building where customers can learn what computers can do to help make their businesses more competitive and government more efficient.

All this investment in the last 10 years alone has totalled almost £1,000 million.

Like Gordon Selfridge we do not claim to have British parents.

But our investment in Britain is as varied as a department store.

- 1982 investment - £119 million.
- Britain's ninth largest exporter.
- 15,000 British jobs.
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### Brother of Colombian President released

Bogota - A two-minute silence was observed throughout Colombia at noon yesterday as part of a national demonstration for peace in a country torn by both political subversion and violent crime (Geoffrey Matthews writes).

Sensing the national mood, leftist guerrillas released the brother of President Betancur yesterday whom they had kidnapped two weeks ago.

The national demonstration, unprecedented in Colombia's history, started with a signal in national radio and was accompanied by fire brigade sirens and the ringing of church bells. Traffic stopped and people waved white flags.

The demonstration, supported by the Government, had been called by the Liberal and Conservative parties and was backed by a Socialist alliance and the Communist Party. It had been planned before Señor Jaime Betancur was kidnapped in Bogota.

### Oberammergau suit fails

Munich - The women of Oberammergau will go on having to be young and single to be allowed to appear in the traditional once-a-decade Passion Play (Barbara von Ow writes).

The Bavarian Constitutional Court yesterday turned down a suit alleging that the play's regulations violated constitutional rights. Only women who are single, childless and under 35, have the right to elect members to the Passion Play Committee.

### Panda ailing



Lin-Ling, the American National Zoo's 12-year-old female giant panda, is seriously ill with kidney failure. Her chances of recovery were poor, zoo officials in Washington said.

### Flynt in dock

Chicago (Reuters) - The sex magazine publisher, Larry Flynt, was jailed yesterday for 60 days for contempt of court after he had shouted obscenities and spat at a Federal judge. He has been in jail in Chicago since his arrest last Saturday for violating a travel ban.

### Rapist flogged

Karachi (Reuters) - A young man was flogged in northern Pakistan before a crowd of 25,000 people after an Islamic court convicted him of rape, the Pakistan news agency reported yesterday. Raza Khan received 10 lashes.

### Nuclear blast

Wellington (AFP) - New Zealand scientists monitored a small French nuclear test explosion at Mururoa atoll in the South Pacific on Saturday, an official spokesman said yesterday.

### £1m ransom paid

La Paz (AFP) - Lufthansa paid £1m for the release of its airline representative here who was kidnapped on November 14, the Bolivian Interior Minister announced. Herr Michael Wurche was freed 11 days after his kidnapping, but his abductors have not been found.

## Crisis in Lebanon: Israeli anger grows

# Greek ships steam to rescue Arafat

From Mario Modiano, Athens

The first of four Greek ships chartered to evacuate the 4,000 Palestinians loyal to Mr Yassir Arafat, is due to reach the port of Tripoli tomorrow.

The Greek Government responded to a request from the PLO leader for help. The Greek Ministry of Merchant Marine made the arrangements and the four ships will take the Palestinians to North Yemen and Tunisia.

"The ships will fly the flags of Greece and the United Nations, as the whole operation will be under the supervision of the U.N. Secretary-General," a spokesman said.

The contracts were signed yesterday between the Greek shipowners and representatives of the PLO, which will bear the cost, including a two per cent war-risk levy.

● JERUSALEM: Pressure is mounting on the Israeli Government not to let Mr Arafat leave safely after the PLO attack on a Jerusalem bus (Christopher Walker writes).

In an interview in Paris, broadcast by Israel Radio, Mr Ariel Sharon, the former Defence Minister, who is now Minister without Portfolio, claimed that it would be a grave mistake for the Israelis to allow Mr Arafat to leave Lebanon, the cost of which would be the revivification of the PLO.

Mr Sharon's demand, reflected the anger felt after Tuesday's explosion which killed four Israelis, including two children, aged 11 and 4, and an elderly man of 77. Ten of the 30 civilians still hospitalized were in a serious condition last night and one was described as critical.

Pressing his call for decisive action against Mr Arafat, the former Defence Minister stressed that the destruction of "the terrorist movement" had



Business as usual: A member of the British contingent in Beirut, carrying his rifle and a small Union Flag, gets on with the job as his future is debated in London. British soldiers have so far escaped serious injury despite last Friday's destruction of a Land-Rover.

been the most important outcome of the Lebanon war. If the PLO was not permitted to reorganize, the way would be open for a Middle East settlement, he said.

Although both wings of the PLO have claimed responsibility for the bus blast, the first claim from Mr Arafat's group in

Tripoli is regarded here as the most authentic. A senior Israeli official said that once those responsible had been isolated retaliation would be ordered.

It is known that gunboats and at least one submarine from the Israeli Navy have been mounting a blockade outside Tripoli and that one ship, carrying Mr

Arafat's supporters towards the port from Cyprus, was recently intercepted.

Earlier yesterday, Mr Yitzhak Shamir's government comfortably survived a motion of no confidence, arising from its recent unwritten security pact with America. The motion was tabled by the small Israeli Communist Party.

## Chastened Americans review their tactics

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

The US Navy is carrying out an investigation into the downing of two of its aircraft over Syrian-occupied Lebanon on Sunday. It may change tactics to reduce losses.

The Americans have been stung by criticism from US and Israeli experts that the strike had been poorly executed, with faulty tactics, inexperienced pilots and aircraft that were too slow.

A US naval officer, who declined to be identified, told journalists that Sunday's losses, two aircraft out of 28 engaged, were just over 7 per cent, which was similar to loss levels during World War Two, and in Vietnam.

The relatively heavy loss would be taken into account when planning future raids.

The aircraft met stiffer resistance than expected and information about Syrian anti-aircraft batteries in Lebanon was inadequate, the officer said. A warning haze over the targets had hampered visibility.

General Mordchaik Hod, a former Israeli Air Force commander, blamed the American pilots' "lack of experience" for the loss of two aircraft in one raid. Israel has lost only three aircraft since it invaded Lebanon last year.

Another retired Israeli officer, General Avraham Adan, said the Americans suffered from poor tactics and planning.

The American officer disputed claims that the aircraft had dived in "World War Two formation". He said they had dived from 10,000ft to release their bombs at 3,000ft.

He said it was "nonsense" to say the pilots were inexperienced, pointing out that a third of those assigned to the task force had combat experience in Vietnam.

He also rejected the charge that the subsonic A6 and A7 bombers used in the raid were too slow. Supersonic aircraft would have had to reduce speed for accurate bombing and would be as vulnerable to missiles as the subsonic aircraft.

The officer conceded that the targets attacked were within range of the 16-in guns of the battleship New Jersey, but a forward air controller would have been needed.

The Syrian Embassy in Washington yesterday confirmed that the US had been notified a number of times that its reconnaissance aircraft would risk being fired on if they flew over Syrian-occupied territory.

## Stick and carrot from Assad

From Robert Flak, Damascus

Insisting that their American "prisoner of war" was being well treated in military custody in Damascus, the Syrians yesterday handed back to the US Government the body of the airman who died in Sunday's American raid in Lebanon and announced that Mr Donald Rumsfeld, President Reagan's Middle East envoy, would be welcomed if he came to Damascus.

Mr Abdul Halim Khaddam, the Syrian Foreign Minister, even said that the US should not "lose its role as a mediator power in the Middle East". It was a striking performance.

It was also a familiar Syrian tactic - a carrot-and-stick approach - to Washington that involved further condemnation of the Americans for their strategic agreement with Israel and a formal promise that US reconnaissance flights over Syrian military positions in Lebanon - which the Syrians say are still going on - will continue to be treated as hostile and fired at by ground defences.

According to the Syrian Foreign Ministry yesterday the Americans were "openly on the side of the Israelis".

Officially the American raids cost the lives of two Syrian soldiers - unofficially the figure is put by diplomats at 40 dead with 120 wounded - and the

political repercussions of the air strike are still reverberating through Damascus. It was left to Mr Faruk al-Sharar, the Syrian Minister for Foreign Affairs, to put Syria's case yesterday at a press conference in Damascus, in which he claimed that the US reconnaissance flights over Lebanon were a violation of international law.

Having obviously studied the consternation of America's allies in the multinational force, Mr al-Sharar, who is one of the Syrian Government's more eloquent spokesmen, observed sharply that the British and Italians were "wiser" than the Americans and French because they were "reconsidering the presence of their soldiers in Lebanon".

Even more serious than the air raids, he contended, was the American decision "to adopt the Israeli concept of security" by sending aircraft over the Syrian lines in preparation for a future attack in Lebanon.

Mr al-Sharar said that Lieutenant Robert Goodman, the US pilot captured on Sunday, was officially considered a Prisoner of War.

President Hafiz Assad's health was also praised by the minister, who claimed that the Syrian leader had recovered from his operation - officially from an appendicitis but widely

## Mandate for British peace force

The conditions under which a British contingent would participate in the multinational peacekeeping force in Lebanon were agreed in an exchange of notes between the British and Lebanese governments on January 31, 1983.

A letter written by Mr Elie Salem, the Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Lebanon, to the British Government said:

Your Excellency, I have the honour to refer to the discussions which have taken place between representatives of our two governments concerning the establishment of a temporary Multinational Force (MNF) in the Beirut area. The Mandate of the MNF is to provide an interposition force at agreed locations and thereby provide a multi-national presence to assist the Lebanese Government and the Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF) in the Beirut area. This presence will facilitate the restoration of Lebanese Government sovereignty and authority over the Beirut area, and thereby further efforts of my Government to assure the safety of persons in the area. The MNF may undertake other functions only by mutual agreement among government. The MNF is currently composed of contingents of the armed forces of France, Italy and the United States of America.

In the foregoing context, I have the honour to propose that the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland deploy a force of approximately 100 personnel to Beirut for a period of three months, subject to the following terms and conditions:-

(i) The British military force shall only be deployed to Beirut if agreed between the United Kingdom and Lebanon.

(ii) Command authority over the British force will be exercised exclusively by the British Government through existing British diplomatic and military channels.

(iii) The LAF and MNF will form a liaison and co-ordination committee.

(iv) The British force will operate in close coordination with the Lebanese Armed Forces.

(v) In carrying out its duties, the British force will not engage in hostilities or other operations of a warlike nature. It may, however, exercise the right of self-defence.

(vi) Notwithstanding the time limits proposed above, the British force will depart from Lebanon upon the request of the President of Lebanon or upon the decision of the British Government. Any proposal for renewal of the Mandate would be subject to consultation between the Government of the Lebanon and her Majesty's Government and the agreement of both parties.

(vii) The Government of Lebanon and the LAF will take all measures necessary to ensure the protection of the British force's personnel to include security assurances from all armed elements not now under the authority of the Lebanese Government that they will refrain from hostilities and not interfere with any activities of the MNF.

(viii) The British force will enjoy freedom of movement and the right to undertake those activities deemed necessary for the performance of its mission for the support of its personnel. Accordingly, the members of

the British force shall enjoy the privileges and immunities accorded the technical and administrative staff of the British Embassy in Beirut, and shall be exempt from immigration and customs requirements, and restrictions on entering or departing from Lebanon. The appropriate British authorities may exercise jurisdiction over the British force in accordance with British service law. Personnel, property and equipment of the British force introduced into Lebanon shall be exempt from any form of tax, duty, charge or levy.

I have the further honour to propose, if the foregoing is acceptable to Your Excellency's Government, that Your Excellency's reply to that effect, together with this Note, shall constitute an Agreement between our two governments which shall come into force on the date of Your Excellency's reply.

Mr D.A. Roberts, British Ambassador in Beirut, said in a reply to Mr Salem:

Your Excellency, I have the honour to refer to Your Excellency's Note of January 31, 1983 requesting the deployment of a British force to the Beirut area. I am pleased to inform you that the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is prepared to deploy for the period of three months a force of approximately 100 personnel.

I have the further honour to inform Your Excellency that my Government accepts the terms and conditions of the Mandate of the British force in the Beirut area as set forth in your Note, and that Your Excellency's Note and this reply accordingly constitute an Agreement between our two governments which shall come into force today.

## Premier told to stay on

Beirut (Reuters) - The Lebanese prime minister, Mr Chafic az-Zayn, asked President Gemayel yesterday to accept his resignation as shells crashed into residential parts of east Beirut, but he was persuaded to stay on.

But the Prime Minister, who wants to hand over to a

government of national unity, said he would continue in office until Mr Gemayel completes a new round of national consultations.

The shelling in east Beirut followed an outbreak of fighting in the mountains between the Lebanese Army and Druze Muslim militias.

## French put blame on Britain but try to avoid recriminations

From Diana Geddes, Paris

If the British are surprised by France's apparent volte-face at Athens on the question of finding a long-term solution to Britain's contribution to the EEC budget, the French are equally surprised at Britain's reaction, believing that it is the British rather than the French who are primarily to blame for the summit's failure.

At the official level very little is being said, save to emphasize France's desire and determination to continue to work for a satisfactory settlement, and every effort is being made to avoid recriminations of any kind. Unlike Mrs Margaret Thatcher, President Mitterrand has made no public comment on Britain's attitude during the summit, despite his strong private feelings.

The only official statement on Athens after yesterday's Cabinet meeting was that President Mitterrand had expressed the hope that the present crisis would help concentrate minds, and that he did not believe in the "self-destruction" of Europe. "If one can dominate the crises, progress is possible" he said.

The resignation of M André Chanderogor as Minister for European Affairs, and his nomination as President of the Cour des comptes, France's highest "court" for the control of public finances, was also announced at the Cabinet meeting. M Chanderogor's departure from the Government had been arranged for some time and had nothing to do with the success or failure of the Athens summit, however. He was considered a tough and competent minister.

President Mitterrand had no need to apportion blame, however. The press has done that for him. There is a unanimous feeling here that it was Mrs Thatcher's intransigence and unwillingness to take one small step toward her Community partners that caused the impasse which led to the total breakdown of negotiations.

That view is supported in private by officials. They reject

the notion that President Mitterrand's declaration that there could be no long-term agreement on Britain's EEC budget contribution represented a radical shift of position from that taken by French officials and ministers in the weeks before the summit.

M Mitterrand was simply restating the basic principle, always adopted by France, that Britain could not continue to operate outside the Treaty of Rome, they insist. France was not willing to countenance a reform of the treaty to suit Britain and it could no longer accept the present arrangements which in effect rewarded those countries which did not respect the Community preference and continued to import goods from outside the EEC.

M Claude Cheysson, the Foreign Minister, announced last night that agreement had been reached in bilateral talks with the West Germans at Athens to phase out within a specified period the Monetary Compensation Amounts (MCA's) on agricultural goods which act as a tax on exports for a country with a weak currency such as France, and a subsidy on imports for a country with a strong currency, such as West Germany.

There is a 10 per cent difference between France and West Germany at present. The abolition of the MCA's has been one of the French farmers' chief demands.

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## Get-tough Commission tries to regain control

From Ian Murray, Brussels

The European Commission is to attempt to turn the clock back to the days when it had much more power in the Community. At the same time it is preparing to impose tough controls on the Community budget for the next year in an attempt to spin the money out.

After the total failure of the Athens summit to decide on essential reforms, the 14-member Commission held a crisis meeting in Brussels yesterday and agreed they had to assert their authority in the manner envisaged by the founding fathers.

The Commission believes essentially that the 10 leaders had too many dossiers in Athens to consider. This was directly due to the growing practice of allowing different countries to put forward rival propositions.

In deciding to try to go back to the good old days when it alone made proposals, the Commission is making a tacit admission that it is not yet ready to take on the role of a meeting not authorized by the rules - run out of control.

The inexperienced Greek presidency tried a new style of summit, which did not work as it often led to as many points of view as ministers round the table.

Mr Gaston Thorn, the Commission President, complained loudly but in vain. Now

the Commission hopes to make its voice heard again.

President Mitterrand who takes over the presidency for six months in the New Year, is under great stress in Athens on the vital importance of running the community rigidly according to the principles laid down in the Treaty of Rome.

So it is probable that he will do away with the unorthodox special council ideas and concentrate on reaching agreements on the basis of Commission proposals argued out between ministers in regular council sessions.

● BONN: Chancellor Helmut Kohl told the West German Parliament yesterday he did not hide his disappointment at the failure of the Athens summit but he was not prepared to apportion blame (Michael Binyon writes).

West Germany would do its best to ensure that the next council meeting was better able to fulfil its task, and Bonn would hold a series of bilateral meetings with its community partners.

The Chancellor said he hoped the crisis would lead to a change in thinking.

● MADRID: In spite of the Athens debacle, both the Spanish and Portuguese Governments have reasserted their wish to join the EEC (Richard Wigg writes).

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## Woman MP fails to get Cabinet job

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

Mrs Lilian Uchtenhagen, the Socialist Party candidate, yesterday failed to become Switzerland's first woman cabinet minister. In a combined session of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament, she received 96 votes against 124 for the party's second choice, Mr Otto Stich.

According to opinion polls, 67 per cent of the population supported the idea of a woman in the seven-member Federal Cabinet. There are 24 women in Parliament.

"It is obviously difficult to find a woman who pleases," Mrs Uchtenhagen said. "But perhaps I have opened the way for a woman minister." Her Zurich party headquarters described the majority of MPs as misogynists.

## US weighs up Managua overtures

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

The United States is ready to intensify its diplomatic efforts to test fully the sincerity of the leftist Nicaraguan Government's promise to hold elections in 1985 and to grant an amnesty to most of the rebels fighting it.

The State Department spokesman here said caution was necessary in interpreting the current peace signals from Nicaragua. "We don't know whether the signals represent a real willingness to deal with the substantive issues. The test is going to come in the actual negotiating process."

Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, on Monday welcomed the Nicaraguan Government's recent statements but made clear he was waiting for "reality to be put behind the rhetoric."

● TEGUCIGALPA: Nicaraguan rebel leaders rejected the offer of amnesty to Nicaraguans who had left the country since 1979 (NYT reports).

The amnesty decree was issued two days ago, and a Nicaraguan Government spokesman said that rebel leaders, among whom, Señor Calero was mentioned specifically, were not eligible.

## China accuses superpowers of being difficult

From Peking (Reuters) - China yesterday said talks on normalizing relations with the Soviet Union had not made any headway and its links with the US had been disturbed by the Taiwan issue.

Mr Wu Xueqian, the Foreign Minister, made a major policy

statement to the National People's Congress (NPC) standing committee, according to the New China news agency.

He said China's foreign policy was marked by difficulties with the two superpowers. Normalization of relations with the Soviet Union were an

improvement only if the Soviet Union withdraws its troops from Afghanistan, stops supporting Vietnam's occupation of Cambodia and reduces its troops and missiles along the Chinese border.

Intervention hint, page 8

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# Argentine air threat to Falklands aims to run up Britain's bill

From Douglas Tweedale  
Buenos Aires

The outgoing head of Argentina's Air Force, Brigadier Augusto Hughes, has vowed that Argentine planes will test Britain's defences on the Falkland Islands and harass them to make the defence more expensive for Mrs Thatcher.

"The Air Force will be present in our sovereign airspace, testing and probing the enemy's defence capabilities to wear him down and make his defence more costly," the commander said.

Brigadier Hughes, who resigned his command on Tuesday in preparation for the transfer of power to the elected civilian government, said in a farewell speech that "the more effective our presence is, the more it will cost the enemy to maintain his forces."

He added that it would be difficult for Britain to continue "providing dollars (for the defence of the islands), especially since those colonies do not produce any dividends."

The Air Force has traditionally been the most nationalistic of Argentina's armed forces.



Señor Alfonsín: Polishing up his first speech

as the country's first civilian ruler in nearly eight years.

In a brief meeting postponed from Monday, the joint houses of Congress confirmed the results of the elections last October which gave Señor Alfonsín the victory, and officially named him President.

Señor Alfonsín is to be sworn in on Saturday in a ceremony that will be attended by a number of European and Latin American heads of state, including Spain's Señor Felipe Gonzalez.

The US is to be represented by a delegation led by Vice-President George Bush.

The President-elect was putting the finishing touches yesterday on a speech he is to deliver to Congress before being sworn in, while his advisers prepared a package of emergency measures they will propose immediately after Señor Alfonsín takes power.

These measures are believed to include sanctions against military officers for human rights abuses in recent years, economic measures aimed at reducing Argentina's inflation rates of more than 400 per cent, and a plan to reform the structure of the armed forces.



Question time: Mr Schultz (right) with Herr Genscher at his press conference

# Shultz eager to meet Gromyko

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Mr George Shultz, the American Secretary of State, said yesterday he was "more than ready" to meet Mr Andrei Gromyko, his Soviet opposite number, at the opening of the European disarmament conference in Stockholm on January 17.

He told a press conference at the end of his brief round of talks with government and opposition leaders here that he expected to attend the conference, which he described as important, as there was strong support among the Western Allies for their foreign ministers to be present at the opening.

Mr Shultz has not turned into an angry confrontation over the shooting down of the Korean airliner.

However, among the European allies, West Germany in particular has been pressing Washington for a resumption of a high-level dialogue. On the eve of Mr Shultz's arrival Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister, called on the West to take the initiative in improving East-West relations.

Mr Shultz said the US and West Germany had no differences on Nato strategy.

In his meeting with Chancellor Helmut Kohl, Mr Shultz also discussed Lebanon, where, he said, the situation was "troublesome American forces there would continue to defend themselves against attacks. He was convinced the Israelis would withdraw from Lebanon and the task now was to persuade the Syrians to do as well."

● LONDON: Whitehall sources confirmed last night that Mrs Thatcher had replied to the letter from President Andropov in which the Soviet leader made one last appeal to halt the deployment of American missiles in Britain (Henry Stanhope writes).

The Russian initiative involved a series of such letters to West European leaders, in which threats and cajolery were used in an attempt to persuade them to change their minds.

Neither Downing Street nor the Foreign Office would discuss the contents of Mrs Thatcher's reply, but it is understood to have thrown the ball back into the Russian court with a demand that the East rather than the West should show more flexibility in any future arms talks.

# The Islamic summit

# Delegates ignore plight of Biharis

From Michael Hamlyn, Dhaka

Just 10 minutes by rickshaw from the concrete architectural caprice housing the Islamic foreign ministers' conference here lies the teeming human wasteland where the stranded Biharis dwell.

While the delegates utter resounding speeches about Muslim brotherhood these Muslims, these victims of inter-Muslim strife and sufferers from Muslim neglect, are unable even to contact the visitors to Dhaka because of the wall of security surrounding them.

Some 250,000 Biharis, non-Bengali Pakistanis stranded here after the war in 1971, live in camps like Geneva Camp, Mohammadpur, close to the centre of Dhaka. In huts made of palm thatch, 8ft by 6ft, families of five live in a warehouse, dark in the absence of natural windows, smoky with cooking fires and heaving with humanity. Young families, elderly widows, old men and their orphaned grandchildren live in pens.

In summer the heat is intense, the flies appalling, the smells unimaginable. In the monsoon nothing dries, the roofs pour with water, the paths turn to swamps. "For the past 12 years," say their leaders, "we have been living amidst hunger, malnutrition, disease, insecurity and filth. A whole generation of children is being slowly wasted away, without education or proper upbringing."

The Bangladesh Government recognises no obligation to honour their contracts.

The Biharis - the majority do come from Bihar, but many hail from Bombay, or Madras, or many other parts of India - were mainly railway employees who were given the chance of opting for Pakistan, or India by the departing British Administration in 1947. They chose Pakistan, and rather than risk the bloody riots of Punjab, they opted for East Bengal.

At the time of the Bangladesh war, they supported the Pakistan Army in its repression of the freedom movement, and as such earned deep resentment of the Bengalis.

After the war their assets were frozen, many of them lost their jobs. Some 600,000 asked to go to the western wing, to take up their lives again.

But Pakistan did not want them. They had never lived in what was left of Pakistan. Bangladesh did not want them. India had no interest in taking them, so they were herded into camps and left to the Red Cross to look after.

They have been there ever since. Those who can make a living by casual labour, by pushing rickshaws, shining shoes or begging. The rest live on the allowance of wheat given by the Government to sustain them. Their pensions have stopped. Their insurance schemes ended.

The Bangladesh Government recognises no obligation to honour their contracts.

# Iran renews threat to shut Hormuz

From Our Own Correspondent, Dhaka

Dr Ali Akbar Velayati, the Iranian Foreign Minister, minced no words in telling the Islamic conference here yesterday that Iran would not hesitate to close the Strait of Hormuz if its interests in the Gulf were threatened.

Dr Velayati, bearded and wearing no tie, told the meeting of Islamic foreign ministers, which includes the Gulf States, Kuwait and Qatar as well as Iraq: "If we are ever deprived of our inalienable and legitimate rights then we reserve the right to reconsider our undertaking (to keep the Gulf open). In that case the Persian Gulf region will be secure for nobody, and we will not hesitate in closing down the Strait of Hormuz."

The Iranian Foreign Minister, flanked by two turbaned mullahs, made no reference to the goodwill mission, led by President Sekou Toure of Guinea, which was set up by the last Islamic summit. Every speech made to the conference so far has referred to the tragedy of the Iran-Iraq war.

The Iraqi delegate to the meeting, Mr Hamad Alwan, the Minister of State, told the conference that Iraq was perfectly prepared to accept the goodwill mission's plan.

● TEHRAN: Captain Buhman Afzali, the former Iranian Navy Commander-in-Chief, admitted before a court here yesterday to spying for the Soviet Union.

# Cautious Ozal pledges to axe ministries

From Rasik Gardilek, Ankara

Military rule ended in Turkey yesterday when President Kenan Evren called on Mr Turgut Ozal, last month's general election winner, to form a government.

General Evren said he hoped that "now that the faults of Turkey's former democratic system are corrected and democracy is based on firmer foundations, there will be no further breakdowns".

Mr Ozal thanked the President from certain disaster, pledging every effort on the part of his government to consolidate the successes attained.

Mr Ozal admitted his five-year term in power would not be easy because of the problems confronting the country, for which he invoked "the help of God". Improving the lot of the "central column" (his description of the middle class) would be a priority.

The former chief of the economy who was swept to power on a ticket of liberal economic policies and a hard drive against inflation, said he would reduce the number of ministries to streamline the bureaucracy.

He has also promised to eliminate the influence of the state on the economy and to restore the economic stabilisation programme, which he had masterminded, to its original ruthlessness.

● ISTANBUL: The newspaper, *Hurriyet* reappeared on news-stands yesterday after martial-law authorities lifted a week-long ban on publication of the largest circulation daily.

Publication was allegedly suspended because the paper printed an obituary, which praised the late Ismail Bilen, the former secretary-general of the outlawed Turkish Communist Party.

# Opposition to Marcos joins forces

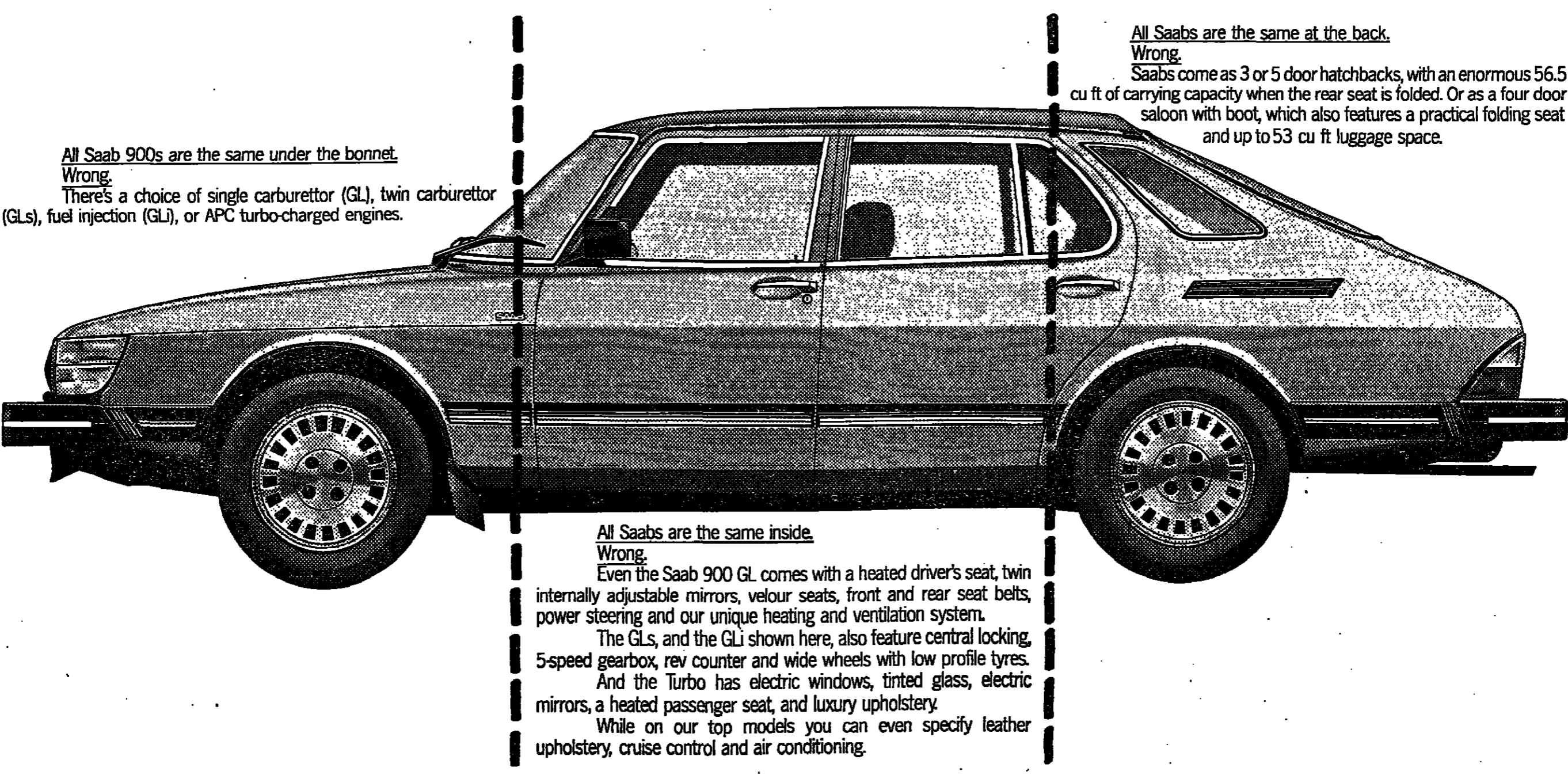
From Keith Dalton  
Manila

Philippine opposition groups yesterday announced plans to hold a national people's congress next month to elect an "alternative government" of 15 sectoral leaders who would be willing to hold reconciliation talks with President Ferdinand Marcos.

The formation of the multi-sectoral congress was accompanied by a warning from the organizers that it was the last attempt to avert further radicalization of the Filipino people.

The chairman of the congress, Mr Agapito Aquino, brother of the murdered opposition leader, Benigno Aquino, said the principle aim was to debunk claims that the opposition lacked a leader of the calibre of Mr Marcos.

# AN INVESTIGATION INTO THE DECEPTIVE APPEARANCE OF A SAAB



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# Purpose of acquiring trading stock

# Statutory or common-law conspiracy

**Coates (Inspector of Taxes) v Arndale Properties Ltd**  
**Reed (Inspector of Taxes) v Nova Securities Ltd**  
 Before Lord Justice Lawton, Lord Justice Fox and Lord Justice Kerr (Judgment delivered December 6)

For an asset to be acquired "as trading stock" within the meaning of section 274(1) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970 the purpose of the acquisition must be commercial in character.

The Court of Appeal so held when considering two appeals involving claims by taxpayer companies to avail themselves of provisions in the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970 the purpose of the acquisition must be commercial in character.

The Court of Appeal so held when considering two appeals involving claims by taxpayer companies to avail themselves of provisions in the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970 the purpose of the acquisition must be commercial in character.

The court (Lord Justice Lawton dissenting) dismissed the Crown's appeal from the decision of Mr Justice Walton (The Times August 6 1982) which held that the acquisition of an asset by a taxpayer company was to obtain a fiscal advantage for the group of companies of which it was a member.

Leave to appeal to the House of Lords was granted in both cases. Mr Jonathan Parker, QC and Mr John Mummery for the Crown in the first appeal; Mr Andrew Park, QC and Mr Michael Flesch, QC for Arndale Properties Ltd; Mr J. E. Holroyd Pearce, QC and Mr Peter Goldsmith for the Crown in the second appeal; Mr C. N. Beattie, QC and Mr Christopher Sokol for Nova Securities Ltd.

LORD JUSTICE LAWTON said that in each appeal the principal issue was whether the company taxpayer, being a member of a group of companies, had acquired "an asset as trading stock" within the meaning of section 274(1) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970. If they had, they could bring into account as trading losses capital gains which had been sustained by the member of the group from whom they had acquired the assets.

In both cases the asset acquired was of the kind in which the taxpayer company traded. But that did not mean that it had been acquired "as trading stock". It must have been acquired for the purpose of being used in the course of trade.

In his Lordship's judgment, if the acquisition of an asset lacked a commercial character it could not be said to have been acquired as trading stock; but if it had that character the reason why the acquisition was made, in the absence of other factors, ought not to deprive it of that character.

Whether a transaction had a commercial character was a question of mixed fact and law. It was a question of law what the words "acquires an asset as trading stock" in section 274(1) meant in a particular question of fact whether the transaction in question came within that meaning.

If the words connoted a transaction having a commercial character and the facts found, the commissioners could reasonably have adjudged that it had such character, they could not be said to have made a determination which was erroneous in law and their determination could not be set aside.

In the first appeal, the taxpayer was one of a number of wholly

owned subsidiaries within the Town and City group and dealt in land. Another subsidiary, Sovereign Property Investments (Newport) Ltd (SPI) had spent £5,313,822 on a property development scheme at Newport which had a market value of only £3,100,000.

On March 30, 1973, SPI transferred the property to the taxpayer for a consideration shown by book entries as £3,090,000. By another assignment on the same day the taxpayer transferred the property to a third subsidiary Arndale Property Trust Ltd (Arndale), an investment company, for £3,100,000.

Two other assignments had been made between members of a group of companies, section 273(1) of the 1970 Act applied so that the transfer was deemed to have produced a gain to SPI and a loss to Arndale. The taxpayer had acquired the property at a price of £5,313,822.

The property was not part of SPI's trading stock. It was one of its capital assets and buildings, however, were assets with which the taxpayer traded.

If it did acquire the property as trading stock and section 274(1) applied under paragraph 1 of Schedule 7 to the Finance Act 1965, the taxpayer's appropriation to its trading stock would be made at the property's market value of £3,100,000. The difference of £2,213,822 between that value and the deemed consideration under section 273(1) could be treated as a trading loss following an election under section 173 which was made in December 1975.

The commissioners decided that the taxpayer had acquired the property "as trading stock", even though those responsible for overall group policy had decided that the property should be sold to the taxpayer and immediately resold to Arndale solely in order that the group should obtain a fiscal advantage in the form of tax relief for the large and genuine loss which SPI had suffered.

In his Lordship's judgment, the commissioners could not have directed themselves properly as to the relevant law. They should have looked at the transaction as a whole and should not have confined themselves to the legal effect of the two assignments.

The transactions did not bear the badges of trade. Within the group there was no commercial reason why SPI should not have assigned directly to Arndale. No cash passed. The profit to the taxpayer of £10,000 could not have been much of an incentive because on its face no provision had been made for profit.

The assignment through the taxpayer could only have been made for the purpose of getting a fiscal benefit. The property could not have been acquired "as trading stock". When deciding otherwise the commissioners made a determination which was erroneous in point of law.

The judge had considered himself bound to uphold the determination because of *Griffiths v J. P. Harrison (Haford) Ltd* ([1963] AC 1). Assuming as he must, as he stated in his judgment in that case as to the construction of section 34(1) of the Income Tax Act 1952 was binding on the court, his Lordship distinguished the present appeal on the ground that it was concerned with section 274(1) of the 1970 Act.

In the second appeal, the taxpayer company bought and sold quoted securities in a small way over a number of years. In March 1973 the whole of its issue share capital was acquired by a company from the Littlewoods group.

The acquiring company had previously undertaken a commercial venture in West Germany through a subsidiary, Medaillon Mode GmbH, which had been financially disastrous. Its only chance of recouping any losses lay in the value of Medaillon's premises in Offenbach.

In August 1973 the Littlewoods company offered to sell to the taxpayer for £30,000 the whole of the registered share capital of Medaillon, debts owing to it by Medaillon and debts owing by a Swiss subsidiary. The taxpayer accepted that offer.

For the purposes of corporation tax those debts and shares had been acquired by the Littlewoods company at a cost of £3,936,765. As a consequence of the application to the transaction of section 273 of the 1970 Act the taxpayer was deemed to have acquired them for that sum, and the taxpayer claimed to have incurred a trading loss for tax purposes of £3,903,950.

The registered share capital of Medaillon had not been sold but £35,447 had been received by the taxpayer in part payment of the debts on the sale of the Offenbach premises.

In his Lordship's judgment, the only reasonable inference from the facts was that the sale of the debts and shares would never have come about if those who had planned it had not seen fiscal advantages.

A deal of the instant kind did have a commercial character and was consistent with the acquisition of assets as trading stock. Looking at the whole matter it was impossible to say that no tribunal properly instructed could reasonably have concluded as did the commissioners.

LORD JUSTICE KERR delivered a judgment concurring with Lord Justice Lawton and Lord Justice Fox on the first appeal and with Lord Justice Fox on the second appeal.

Solicitors: Solicitor, Inland Revenue; Speechly Bircham; Solicitor, Inland Revenue; Allen & Overy.

LORD JUSTICE FOX, concurring on the first appeal, said that the words "trading stock" must imply an acquisition for a trading purpose and to constitute a trading purpose the purpose must be commercial in character.

In the second appeal, it could not be inferred from the admitted facts that the sole or indeed the principal purpose of the acquisition by the taxpayer was fiscal.

It must be legitimate for a company when deciding when to acquire property "as trading stock" to take into account tax benefits which might follow though the acquisition itself must be for trading and not merely fiscal purposes.

The board of the taxpayer company met to consider Littlewoods' offer and took note that, on the information available, £55,000 would be recovered on the debts. There was no evidence as to the extent to which the board was influenced by fiscal considerations.

It was a perfectly possible view of the facts that the property was acquired by the taxpayer as trading stock. Looking at the whole matter it was impossible to say that no tribunal properly instructed could reasonably have concluded as did the commissioners.

LORD JUSTICE KERR delivered a judgment concurring with Lord Justice Lawton and Lord Justice Fox on the first appeal and with Lord Justice Fox on the second appeal.

Solicitors: Solicitor, Inland Revenue; Speechly Bircham; Solicitor, Inland Revenue; Allen & Overy.

**Regina v Ayres**  
 Before Lord Justice O'Connor, Mr Justice Kilner Brown and Mr Justice Popplewell  
 (Judgment delivered December 2)

The question whether conspiracy to defraud at common law could only be charged where the evidence did not support any substantive statutory conspiracy, having regard to sections 1 and 5 of the Criminal Law Act 1977, as amended, was certified as involving a point of law of general public importance. Leave to appeal to the House of Lords was refused.

The Court of Appeal dismissed an appeal by David Edward Ayres against his conviction on October 15, 1982 at Reading Crown Court (Judge Hilliard) of conspiracy to defraud. He was sentenced to eight months' imprisonment.

The Criminal Law Act 1977 provides by section 1: "(1) Subject to the following provisions of this part of this Act, if a person agrees with any other person or persons that a course of conduct shall be pursued which will necessarily amount to or involve the commission of any offence or offences by one or more of the parties to the agreement if the agreement is carried out in accordance with their intentions, he is guilty of conspiracy to commit the offence or offences in question."

Section 5 provides: "(1) Subject to the following provisions of this section, the offence of conspiracy at common law is hereby abolished. (2) Subsection (1) above shall not affect the offence of conspiracy at common law so far as relates to conspiracy to defraud, and section 1

above shall not apply in any case where the agreement in question amounts to a conspiracy to defraud at common law."

Mr Christopher Wilson-Smith and Mr Robin Tolson for the appellant; Mr Julian Baughan and Mr J. M. D. Chapple for the Crown.

MR JUSTICE KILNER BROWN, delivering the judgment of the court, said that the substantive fraud alleged was an intention to obtain money from an insurance company by a false representation that a lorry load of scallops had been stolen while in transit, which would be contrary to section 15 of the Theft Act 1968.

It had been submitted that the indictment should have been laid as a conspiracy to obtain property by deception contrary to section 1(1) of the 1977 Act, and not as a conspiracy to defraud contrary to common law.

The application of sections 1(1) and 5(1) and (2) had given rise to much discussion, to difference of opinion between divisions of the Court of Appeal and uncertainty in courts of first instance. The wording of section 5(1) and (2) appeared in effect to preserve the whole range of common law conspiracy to defraud, which included a wide variety of offences which were created and defined by statute and were no longer common-law offences.

In *R v Quinn* (1978) Crim L R 750 Mr Justice Drake ruled that a conspiracy to steal should be charged at common law. In *R v Walters* (1979) 69 Cr App R 115 Lord Widgery, Lord Chief Justice, held that it was proper to regard a conspiracy to defraud, and section 1

within a conspiracy to defraud, and that an indictment was not rendered invalid merely because it charged conspiracy to defraud if truly the offence was conspiracy to steal.

Then in *R v Duncaif* (1979) 1 WLR 918 the Court of Appeal held, disapproving *Quinn*, that upon the true construction of section 5(2) the only common-law offence that was preserved was a conspiracy to defraud simpliciter, and that where the obvious purpose of the conspiracy was to steal the Act required it to be charged as such contrary to section 1.

As a result of the guidance given the practice had developed of framing indictments and conspiracies to rob and conspiracies to steal and so forth rather than alleging a conspiracy to defraud, and alleging a conspiracy to defraud in those cases where fraud was the essence of the offence.

The convenience of that practice was demonstrated by the facts of the instant case. The difficulty was that

the draughtsman plainly envisaged that a conspiracy to defraud might also be a conspiracy as defined by section 1(1), and so provided in section 5(2).

Their Lordships doubted whether the decisions in *Duncaif* and *Walters* could stand together. On the clear wording of section 5(2) they were content to be bound by the decision in *Walters* and to hold that the appellant was properly charged with conspiracy to defraud.

The submission that the indictment was defective was rejected. Their Lordships, however, wished to remind those who persisted in raising questions on the form of the indictment that the arguments were of little practical importance. Even if an indictment was incorrectly framed, it was defective only and did not render the trial a nullity; see *R v Mohamud* (1980) 72 Cr App R 111 and *R v McLaughlin* (1982) 76 Cr App R 421.

Solicitors: Wolfertans, Plymouth; Mr C. S. Hoad, Kidlington.

## Claiming for interest

**Alsabah Maritime Services Company Ltd v Philippine International Shipping Corporation**

Although a contracting party could in some circumstances be liable in special damages for interest charges which another party had incurred by reason of the first party's default in paying sums due under the contract, such damages were not recoverable where the contract expressly provided that

further charges would not arise under it unless agreed between the parties, and where the charging of interest was illegal in the jurisdiction in which the contract sum should have been paid.

Mr Justice Neill so stated in the Commercial Court of the Queen's Bench Division on November 30, giving judgment for the plaintiff company for sums due under a contract which it had made with the defendant corporation.

# For a Rolex Oyster, flying round the world is just a routine job.

After nearly 60 hours without sleep, flying at 17,000 feet over India, Judith Chisholm began to hallucinate. Faces of relatives and friends began to appear around her in the cockpit.

But even then, with her physical and mental reserves virtually exhausted, Judith Chisholm was determined to continue her record breaking round-the-world flight and fly on to Sri Lanka.

"I had the option of landing in India," she says, "but I couldn't take the risk of being delayed."

Later in the flight Judith found herself flying through a tropical storm of terrifying intensity during which the plane was struck by lightning.

"In all my years of flying, I've never been so frightened," she says.

And then, within four hours of Australia, a fault in the fuel transfer system nearly forced her down into the ocean.

On reaching Sydney, Judith decided she was capable of flying on. And when she finally



touched down at London, Heathrow, her tiny single-engined aircraft had taken her over 27,000 miles in 15 days. She had broken 29 world records including the fastest-ever round-the-world flight by a woman.

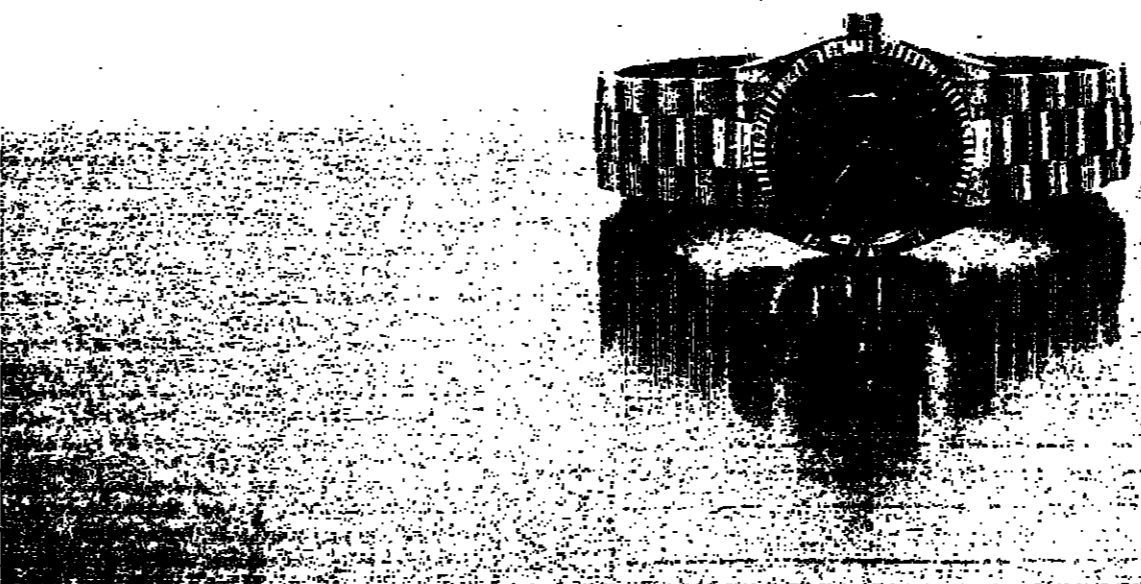
During those 15 days she had slept for less than 40 hours.

Little wonder then to hear Judith describe her regular occupation of flying executive jets around Europe as "just a routine job."

For Judith Chisholm, part of the routine of any flight is a Rolex Oyster.

"On a normal flight, having a totally reliable watch is essential," she says. "To attempt to fly round the world without one would be absolute madness. A Rolex Oyster is that totally reliable watch. Unlike me, it was wide awake for every second of those 360 hours."

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## Uncorroborated evidence of mental patients

**Regina v Bagshaw and Others**  
 Before Lord Justice O'Connor, Mr Justice Kilner Brown and Mr Justice Popplewell  
 (Judgment delivered December 2)

The Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) certified that a point of law of general public importance was involved in the question whether in a case where the evidence for the Crown was solely that of a witness who was not in one of the accepted categories of suspect witnesses, but who by reason of his particular mental condition and criminal convictions fulfilled the same criteria, the judge must warn the jury that it was dangerous to convict on his uncorroborated evidence. Leave to appeal to the House of Lords was refused.

The Court gave reasons for allowing, on November 10, the appeals of Robert Keith Bagshaw, Brian Holmes and John Starkey, who were convicted on May 11, 1982 at Nottingham Crown Court (Judge Hopkin and a jury) of ill-treating patients contrary to section 36 of the Mental Health Act 1959.

Mr J. B. Mortimer, QC and Mr Aidan S. Marron for the appellants; Mr Jeremy Roberts, QC, and Mr Richard Dixon for the Crown.

MR JUSTICE O'CONNOR said that patients under the 1959 Act were not a category like accomplices or confessions in sexual cases, nor would their Lordships wish to make them into an additional category. Patients detained in a special hospital after conviction for an offence or offences, even if they were not a category, might well fulfil to a very high degree the criteria which justified the requirement of the full warning in respect of witnesses within accepted categories.

If seemed to their Lordships that in such cases nothing short of the full warning that it was dangerous to convict on the uncorroborated evidence of the witnesses would suffice.

The trial judge's summing up was a masterpiece of lucidity and fairness; he gave an impeccable direction to the jury that they should treat the evidence of the complainants with the greatest caution, but their Lordships were in no doubt that the three complainants in the present cases were shown to be persons in respect of whom the full warning was essential. The convictions were unsafe and should be quashed.

Solicitor: Tracy Barlow Furniss & Co., Worksop; Director of Public Prosecutions.

## Law Society report must be disclosed

**Buckley v The Law Society**  
 Before Lord Justice Cumming-Bruce and Lord Justice Fox  
 (Judgment delivered December 2)

A "handround" given by Law Society staff to a professional purposes committee meeting where it was then decided that there was reason to suspect dishonesty in a solicitor was a material document requiring discovery.

The Court of Appeal dismissed an appeal by the Law Society against the inclusion on May 17, 1983 of the handround in an order for discovery of documents relating to an intervention by them under paragraph 6(4) of Schedule 1 to the Solicitors Act 1974 against Mr C R Buckley; see *The Times* May 14, 1983.

Mr Ian Kennedy, QC and Mr John P. Whitaker for the Law Society; Mr John G. Wilmer, QC and Mr Ian McCulloch for Mr Buckley.

which the resolution to intervene was passed.

The Law Society argued that the question now was not whether they had reason to suspect dishonesty but whether it would be safe for the court to conclude that they should withdraw their intervention, and the handround was not relevant to that issue; it was not a case of judicial review as to whether they had directed themselves properly in deciding whether to pass the resolution.

His Lordship could not accept that argument. The order for discovery in terms related to the position at the date when the Law Society decided they had reason to suspect dishonesty. The handround was its very nature, show grounds indicating dishonesty or the absence of it, as it appeared to the officers of the society at that time. Whether primary fact or analysis of facts, it was primary material before the committee.

Lord Justice Cumming-Bruce said: Solicitors: Hempsons; Edwin Coe & Calder Woods.

# The unlikely civil servant

## The Times Profile Lord Carrington

Britain's two most remarkable foreign secretaries since the war have come from opposite extremes of the social spectrum. Yet there are revealing similarities between them, in content if not in form. Neither Ernest Bevin nor Lord Carrington - due to be named tomorrow as the next Secretary-General of Nato - went to university, though both were men of powerful, natural and energetic intelligence. Both had extensive experience of the world outside politics, and neither mixed ideology with foreign affairs. The parallel should not be strained but it highlights the cross-party pragmatism that has, until very recently, characterized the British approach to foreign policy. In Carrington's case, this took the form of a coruscating common sense which was the root of his enormous popularity with the British public.

Most biographies linger more on the style than the substance of the man: the overtones of Whiggery, Waugh and Wodehouse; Eton, the Guards, the manor house and the acres in Buckinghamshire; and the apparent effortlessness of everything, whether the rise to power, the humour or the charm.

There is a shade of affectionate, national self-caricature in this emphasis on the antique. But it obscures the fact that Lord Carrington is a very serious, modern man. The image of the languid, aristocratic amateur is fundamentally faulty. He has a considerable disdain for the more lethargic of his caste, and his sympathy with the cause of the reform of the House of Lords (he was once its leader) is well attested.

His resignation is usually discussed in old-fashioned terms of "honour". There was certainly a strong element of this. But he himself admits that the practical difficulty of entering a probable war with a controversial foreign secretary under unremitting attack from parts of the press was also very much on his mind.

Since then he has fretted not so much at the indignity of what happened (though he has never enjoyed anything less) as at his relative inactivity. He has enough to do to fill a long day: as chairman of GEC he travels a good deal, smoothing the way for big business from the Middle East to South-east Asia. He also takes his new job at the Victoria and Albert Museum very seriously, and has more time for his farm. But he feels the need to be stretched.

His activism in the public interest goes back to the time when he was

elected as a county councillor in his native Buckinghamshire for three years after the war. His periods in office - at the ministries of Agriculture, Energy and Defence before the Foreign Office - have also been interspersed with active involvement in business and banking, and relentless travel.

At the Foreign Office, this busyness reached a peak. Initially, there was as much to learn as to do, especially about Europe. MCAs (the notoriously intricate system of Monetary Compensation Amounts paid under the agricultural policy) and the Green Pound had not existed during his earlier days in the ministry of Agriculture. Carrington is not a natural economist - though he is not a matchstick man either - and he had to swot up the whole subject at the same time as he was laying the diplomatic foundations of Lancaster House. His solution was to get up at five and do a couple of hours hard work on his box before breakfast.

The inner rigour could be seen in other ways. Behind the bonhomie and the banter, there is a sharp and even merciless critic. It came out in small ways. Each ambassador thought he was Carrington's favourite. Each had his weak point too, which Carrington spotted at first meeting. His almost obsessive politeness was another aspect of the same characteristic. All over the world he left a trail of startled motorcycle escorts who were obliged to tug off their massive gloves to shake hands with the visiting Foreign Secretary while his plane revved and his staff anguished over the lost time. But he was equally demanding in return: kept waiting for a meeting or an audience for more than a minute, he would begin to twitch and accuse the culprit, whatever his rank, of insulting behaviour.

The Foreign Office was the peak of Carrington's pre-Nato career; all he asked was to stay there. He had no grand strategy to implement - he hated "concepts" and would finger any thick, thoughtful-looking paper suspiciously and ask his private secretary whether it contained any. But he saw a lot to be done and set about it briskly. His industry, purposefulness and wit captivated his officials, who worked with him willingly, as a team.

By far the most urgent problem was Rhodesia. It is hard to remember now the extent to which the issue dominated British foreign policy at that point. Often as much as 50 per cent of the Foreign Secretary's time was devoted to the affairs of southern Africa. Just as Bevin, the trade



Lord Carrington: a very serious, modern man

unionist, was the right man at the right historical moment to secure a national consensus for the necessity of Nato; so Carrington was best placed in the House of Lords to take the hair-raising political risks of Lancaster House. The Rhodesian settlement was pushed through by a mixture of bluff, willpower and sheer diplomatic professionalism, with his friend Ian Gilmour keeping the anxious Commons members involved.

Carrington knew all along that he was on the high wire, and naturally resented the prodding in the press and the intrigues by some of his own party to dislodge him - just as he could never forgive Nyerere's attempts to wreck the conference. He still has no regrets at having stopped an unwinnable war in which 25,000 people, including many whites, had already died, and at having staged one of the most democratic elections ever likely to be seen in Africa. He is genuinely unable to understand the opponents of the settlement. He himself is a fierce opponent of the illusion of options - in this case letting the war go on, backing the fragile Bishop Muzorewa, or both.

He was equally persistent in the search for diplomatic solutions in Gibraltar, Belize, Hongkong and the Falklands. In this sense, he was very much in tune with the Thatcher times, with their emphasis on the evils of complacency and inertia. Ever

conscious of the danger of letting these sensitive situations fester, he once threw a fit when a national newspaper suggested that he should learn to "leave well alone". He was conscious too of the enormity of the problems Britain faced closer to the centre of her concerns - in Europe, the Middle East, East/West relations and the Atlantic relationship.

What had been an advantage over Rhodesia turned out to be a drawback in the Falklands. Stiff, formal and infrequent sessions with the select committee on Foreign Affairs and meetings with backbenchers could not substitute for direct involvement in the House of Commons. Maybe the crucial point in Carrington's career was his decision not to promote leaseback in the Falklands after the Commons said "no". His defence is the difficulty of doing so without signalling weakness to the Argentines; and that it is all really hindsight anyway. It is the only real point on which the Franks Report sought to fault him.

Only after the Rhodesian incubus was lifted was there time to devote to the central issues. Here, his activism was balanced by an inbred scepticism: some of his officials would have preferred Britain to take a higher profile in the Middle East, for example. Carrington (who had a way of making them think he was taking their advice, but doing something rather different) worked hard to secure the Venice Declaration, and at follow-up contacts with individual Arab governments. But his short-term concern was not to pull off another diplomatic coup, but to contain the combustible uncertainties of the Middle East during the American electoral campaign, at a time when Carter's Camp David was manifestly failing; and to get what he saw as the simple, balanced principles of the declaration firmly established.

He has always been an unashamed believer in diplomacy. But he believes strongly in defence too. He never questioned the need for cruise or Trident, though he enjoyed stirring up waves in Whitehall by repeating at the drop of a brass that his belief that Britain would eventually have to

choose between a first class navy, army and air force.

He was unquestioning too about Europe. At the slightest manifestation of anti-Europeanism he would launch into a well-rehearsed, but perfectly sincere, speech about his post-war reflections as he "stood in the ruins of Cologne".

It is sometimes said that Carrington, as foreign secretary, travelled too much, and lost touch with political realities at home. Seen in a different perspective, this international activism had a broader purpose and effect. By flying the flag with such flair, he helped to reassure opinion abroad while some heavy domestic furniture was being moved around. By keeping Britain's end up, he helped the government's overall popularity at a time when there seemed little prospect of an economic Lancaster House.

The key relationship was, of course, with Mrs Thatcher. They saw each other far more often - almost daily - than is usual between prime minister and foreign secretary. There were, inevitably, difficulties. But there was real mutual respect as well, and any tensions were remarkably creative. As a non-contender for the throne, Carrington used his political detachment to argue forcefully for what he thought was right. They brought out the best in each other: she helping to root him in stern principle; and he acting as a catalyst between the Prime Minister's instincts and intelligence.

There was never any rancour and much mutual solicitude. Once, late on a Saturday afternoon after a tense day on the Rhodesian tightrope, he arrived pale, drawn and lunchless at Number 10. The Prime Minister suddenly realized that he had not eaten, and offered to cook him scrambled eggs in her flat upstairs. The chemistry between them was sometimes volatile, but mostly highly effective.

The Prime Minister supported his Nato candidacy, though Carrington himself has hardly gone out of his way to solicit the job. His famous "megaphone diplomacy" speech at the International Institute of Strategic Studies last April (in fact he deliberately omitted these particular words, which he thought might be misunderstood at Number 10, from the spoken text but they were in the press release...) was hardly calculated to improve his chances of appointment in Washington's eyes.

Yet Carrington is a natural choice for Nato at a time when the effectiveness of defence through deterrence will become increasingly closely linked to the diplomacy of arms control. It is difficult to think of anyone better suited to "sell" Nato's strategy to the western public, and to reconcile transatlantic interests, after the bruising period of the Euro-missiles deployment, than a former British minister of both defence and foreign affairs with his reputation.

In a sense he is an unlikely international civil servant. Mrs Thatcher said on his resignation that he had been a "sturdy and bonny fighter for Britain". He will still be fighting for Britain, as well as for Nato in Brussels. His appointment will help to raise Britain's profile and prestige in the whole costly, complex area of security, arms control and East/West relations.

And there is a curious continuity in the fact that Carrington, the aristocrat, should be secretary-general of an organisation in the establishment of which his distinguished, proletarian predecessor as foreign secretary had such a big hand.

George Walden

The author, Conservative MP for Buckingham, was principal private secretary to Lord Carrington at the Foreign Office, 1979-81.

## Nato's man in the middle

The Secretary-General of Nato, as the most senior official of the biggest and most powerful security alliance in the world, has immense prestige but, in reality, very little power.

He is an international civil servant appointed by the organization's highest body, the North Atlantic Council, which consists of the representative ministers from each member country.

He becomes chairman of this council, the Defence Planning Committee, and the Nuclear Planning Group, in their meetings at ministerial level - normally twice a year - and in their regular and informal meetings at permanent representative level - normally twice a week. There he can exert considerable influence but all decisions are made by the delegates and, as the organization has no supranational character, they have to be unanimous.

It is from this apparent weakness that his power derives but it is that of a diplomat rather than that of a ruler. Where there are conflicting national interests and potential disagreements, he must recognise the main lines of possible consensus and move ministers or their representatives towards it by personal persuasion. He can do this alone or by seeking the support of one or more of the ministers; he can point out approach avenues, suggest compromises, inform and instruct - but he can never command.



Joseph Luns: an armour-plated Kallis-Royce

There is no standard contract for a secretary-general. Matters such as salary, entertainment and travel expenses, house and car, are negotiated between Council and candidate. Mr Joseph Luns, the outgoing Secretary-General, has a tax-free salary comparable to that of the United Nations Secretary-General, a fully staffed house and is driven in a green, armour-plated Rolls-Royce.

So far the incumbent has set his own time limit: Mr Luns is in his thirteenth year. It is understood that the Council will now limit the next term to four years. A new incumbent will himself decide the limitations he must impose on himself. Contracts for members of the international staff stipulate that they give their individual attention to their task and they cannot, therefore, hold other posts. Membership of a board of directors of any commercial company would probably be

incompatible with the appointment, let alone, in view of its defence equipment production side, that of GEC. Equally, he would not be able to take an active part in the politics of his own country. However, propagating the Nato doctrine has become one of the primary functions of the secretary-general, one which Mr Luns fulfilled untiringly.

His tasks are manifold, his problems vast. At a time when East-West relations are at their worst since the early 1950s, the Alliance is under considerable internal stress. The secretary-general inherits a watching brief on Greece and Turkey, will have to face a referendum on adherence in Spain, and sees a perennial tug of war between Europe and the United States. He will need great powers of persuasion and conciliation as well as penetrating vision to achieve even a measure of success.

Frederick Bonnant

LECH WALESIA

The interview with Lech Walesa, carried on yesterday's Spectrum page, was the result of questions compiled by Western journalists based in Poland and put to Mr Walesa by two intermediaries: a Polish journalist who has not been allowed to work in his own country for two years and a Polish-speaking Western journalist, both of whom desired to remain anonymous.

moreover... Miles Kingston

## Unsung hero of those noises off

People who do very unusual jobs indeed 17: The MP who sits nearest to the microphone on the Commons and goes "Yah! Yah!"

Whenever we hear a recording of the proceedings in the House of Commons, we can hear behind the speaker a chorus of reaction from MPs, ranging from a quiet rhubarb to a rabble riot. But no matter how loud the chorus one voice always seems closer than the others. It belongs to Quentin Huckleby, SDP-Labour member for Crossover South.

"Like all great Parliamentary customs, it started by accident," says Quentin, an affable self-employed conveyancer of about 45. "I just happened to be sitting nearest the mike one day during a particularly boring debate on the renaming of the North Sea. And I was passed a note by the Speaker. 'Please provide some reactions,' it said, 'or the radio audience will think there's no one here.' Well, I could see what he meant, so I started harrumphing and groaning a bit, as we normally would do if Mrs Thatcher was speaking."

"Anyway, the Speaker came up to me afterwards and said I was a great success and could I go on doing it in future debates, so I always have. What he liked especially, I think, was that he couldn't tell from the noises I was making whether I supported the speaker or not. Of course, as a Labour-SDP member I often don't know myself, so I suppose I have without realizing evolved some non-committal but impassioned noises. I now have a special seat near the mike."

Quentin Huckleby has not actually spoken in the house since winning his seat at the Election, but as he has grunted and groaned non-stop through every debate, he doesn't think he has to.

"People outside the Commons often think it's rude of me to interrupt and barrack speakers but they don't realize that the speakers love it. Mrs Thatcher raising her voice to roar over the rebellious crowd beneath her - well, she's best left if she didn't have that hubbub to fight. She'd certainly sound pretty stupid if she were shouting in a complete silence. When there's not enough noise, she actually signals to me to start the protest going."

How does he get that distinctive "Yah-yah" noise that only MPs seem capable of? "It's not really 'Yah-yah' if you listen closely. It's more like 'Hee hee' recorded at 45 rpm. It then played back at 33 rpm. It's got overtones of approval and disapproval at the same time. The same with what the press calls cries of 'Oh! Oh! Oh!'. This is really 'Ho ho ho' slowed down and played back with more bass. And a touch of echo."

Wouldn't Mr Huckleby admit that the Parliamentary chorus is rather like a secondary school class barracking a weak teacher?

"Not at all. I'd say it was more like a primary school, played back at half the speed."

Isn't this all rather childish? "Oh, definitely. That's why the public loves it. I know the critics say we sound like a pack of unruly passengers on a charabanc, but let's face it: that's what people identify with. Of course, as the prime mover I have to do a lot of rehearsing."

Rehearsing? How can you rehearse crowd reactions?

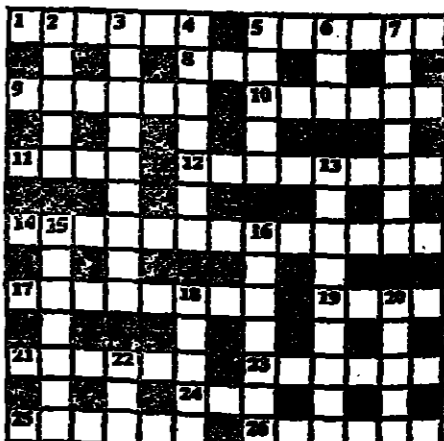
"Easily. Sometimes I practise as a drinker who's just been told it's closing time - lots of MPs are well away, so that's fitting. Sometimes as an England forward being sent off in the French match, sometimes as Cecil Parkinson being found out."

What would happen if he genuinely got angry about something being said in the Commons?

"Oh, we don't actually listen to what's being said, we just listen to the tone of the voice. I'm not sure what would happen if I found myself following the speeches. Drop off to sleep, I expect. The only time I got really angry was when I noticed Mrs Thatcher edging near the microphone during a Neil Kinnock explosion, and booing into it, rather like herself at half speed. Well, that's not her job, that's my job, and I rather told her off, I'm afraid."

Can he remember exactly what he said to her? "It doesn't really matter, does it? During a Neil Kinnock explosion, all you can hear is Welsh spit flying into outer space."

## CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 218)



- ACROSS
- 1 Palm fibre (6)
  - 2 Intertwined (6)
  - 3 Contentious shout (3)
  - 9 Negligent (6)
  - 10 Depression (6)
  - 11 Mire up (4)
  - 12 Suspended state (8)
  - 14 Indifferently (13)
  - 19 Immense (4)
  - 21 Leafy rain (6)
  - 23 Insist upon (6)
  - 24 Exclude (3)
  - 25 Steeply (6)
  - 26 Girl's governor (6)
- DOWN
- 2 Amphitheatre (9)
  - 3 Very alarming (5)
  - 4 Refrain (7)
  - 5 Castle mound (5)
  - 6 Distinguished Service Order (1,1,1)
  - 7 Dislocated (7)
  - 13 Unscrupulously ambitious person (9)
  - 15 Larnard (7)
  - 16 Tower mass (7)
  - 18 Brindled (5)
  - 20 Sea nymph (5)
  - 22 Arbitrator (3)
- SOLUTION TO No 217
- ACROSS: 1 Lunacy 4 Trade 7 Giant 8 Kitchin 9 Skillets 12 Sap 15 Twitch 16 Bazaar 17 Bag 19 House of God 24 Jeroboam 25 Bane 26 Sinner
- DOWN: 1 Loot 2 No talking 3 Yobel 4 Theft 5 Robe 6 Dacha 10 Locus 11 Spout 12 Saw voyage 13 Prey 14 Stab 18 Agony 20 Ology 21 Oomph 22 Gown 23 Rest

With your help, Nicola will be able to write a thank you letter this Christmas.



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THE SPASTICS SOCIETY

هكذا من الأصل

BOOKS

Sandy Wilson on the lyrics of Cole Porter and Noel Coward Born to set our toes tapping



Cole Porter with Silk Stockings in 1961

The Complete Lyrics of Cole Porter

Edited by Robert Kimball (Hamish Hamilton, £25)

The Lyrics of Noel Coward

(Methuen, £9.95, paperback £3.95)

My first memory of a Cole Porter lyric dates back to 1935, when C. B. Cochran presented Anything Goes at the Palace Theatre. My entire family went, while I was banished to an aunt

in Scotland, but we had the records on the gramophone and I learned all the words of You're the Top - a task rendered far from easy by the fact that Cochran had cast in the part of Reno Sweeney, played on Broadway by Ethel Merman (Porter's favourite vocalist: every syllable of his lyrics hit the back of the balcony), a French lady called Jeanne Aubert. What is more, some of the lyrics had been Anglicized (by P. G. Wodehouse?) and one couplet went: "You're an ode by a leading songwriter/You're road where there ain't no

gongster" - a "gongster" being a policeman who, at that time, used to chase speeding motorists, beating, if you can believe it, a gong.

Then came his movie, Born to Dance, in which James Stewart sang - not at all badly - one of Porter's best romantic ballads, Easy to Love, to Eleanor Powell, and Virginia Bruce, a Broadway star, vamped him with I've Got You Under My Skin, and, during a personal appearance, on a battleship (Ah, the Thirties!), sang the musical and lyrical curiosity, Love Me, Love My Pekingese. No more Porter shows - such as Jubilee, Red Hot and Blue, and Leave It to Me - came to London in that decade, though some of their songs did; but during the War there was a rash of them: Dubarry Was a Lady with Frances Day and Arthur Riscoe, Panama Hattie with Bebe Daniels, Something For The Boys with Evelyn Dall, Let's Face It with Bobby Howes and Pat Kirkwood. The last did quite well, but the other three, which had all starred Merman in New York, failed to make much impact. But at the beginning of the 50s there arrived what many consider his masterpiece, Kiss Me, Kate, in which almost every song was perfection in itself and a perfect complement to the libretto. I say "almost" because Porter's wit, so scintillating in the 30s, became a little tarnished in the 40s and in Brush Up Your Shakespeare ("Kick her right in the Coriolanus"), downright grubby. His next show, Out Of This World, a modern version of Amphitryon, though a failure, sounds like fun; but both Can Can and Silk Stockings were heavy going.

My favourite American lyricist is Lorenz Hart, but Porter was also, of course, like Irving Berlin, his own composer, and although a lyric such as Night and Day may not read like much, when it is intricately wedded to its melody it becomes something very special. In his best comedy lyrics, Porter was urbane and delightfully flip, and numbers such as

Let's Not Talk About Love, Farming and The Leader of a Big Time Band are comedians of the topics and personalities of the day. Take this from the first: "Let's speak of Lamarr, that Hedy so fair/Why does she let Joan Bennett wear all her old hair? - who today remembers that the blonde Miss Bennett suddenly went brunette in, I think, 1939? And in Farming we are told that George Raft's cows fail to call because "George's bull is beautiful, but he's gay" - the first recorded use of the word in that sense (and a bitter loss to lyric-writers, I may say, since it has so many rhymes!). It is a measure of the sophistication of Broadway audiences at that time and of the intimacy of Manhattan that almost every-one knew who and what he was talking about.

This huge volume contains every single one of Cole Porter's lyrics, from his student days to his death, including many never used or cut from shows. It also has a foreword by John Updike and some attractive photographs (and two wrong captions: on p.138 "Virginia Bruce" should be "Una Merkel" and on p.220 "Janet Blair" should be "Cobina Wright Jr") but at £25 is hardly a snip. However, for Broadway buffs it could be a useful corrective to the often misinformed drive one hears on the radio (usually on Sunday afternoons).

Coincidentally Methuen have republished the collected lyrics of Noel Coward. He once told me that he considered Cole Porter his only peer (he dismissed Hart as "vulgar") and, in a renowned collaboration, he added several choruses to Porter's Let's Do It. Coward's lyrics are, I think, better known in this country, perhaps because he recorded so many of them so superbly himself. Porter recorded a few of his, and extremely camp, but he sounded there's no one to touch either of them today. I'm afraid, in the field of lyric-writing "Anything", it seems, "goes" - and the less one can hear of it, the better!

Hark! hark! the Larkin Required Writing By Philip Larkin (Faber, £4.95)

It is an agreeable irony that the finest critic of our generation should be so reluctant to review. Telephone the Hull University Librarian with the proposition of a book to review, and he will murmur polite veilities that he had more time, and that it had been a detective story or a work about the Beatles. Occasionally Larkin agrees to review, which is why he has called his pieces from the past 30 years Required Writing. I can think of few other critics whose reviews would be worth collecting, and none whose collection would show so wide a range, and be so continually surprising and entertaining. The subjects range from the mandarin to the pop, from new ideas about Houssman and Marvell, to jazz record reviews and James film-Bond, the childish Batman from Blades. One conspicuous quality of Larkin's criticism is its honesty. He is never scared to take the unfashionable view of the Emperor's clothes, whether they are modernism in the arts, Auden's poetry after he left England, the attractions of children, or himself. "Deprivation is for me what daffodils were for Wordsworth."

He is funny as well as sharp: "I should never call myself a book lover, any more than a people lover: it all depends what's inside them. He is sharp as well as funny: "Many poets are perceptive horse and those impure assemblages known as poetry readings are a wonderful new way of being paranoically boring." He is often moving, as when recalling the old excitement of jazz, and always sees further than most of us. That is why it is worth persevering in asking him to review. His collected pieces are required reading, and the next best thing to a new collection of his poems.

Philip Howard

Woodrow Wyatt whales into Greenpeace ... is another man's poisson

Whales Edited by Greg Gatenby (Little Brown/Hutchinson, £27.50)

I thought the Greenpeace people were barny before I saw this book. Now I know they are. Whales and dolphins are being slaughtered around the world, with increasingly brutal efficiency, and are in grave danger of extinction. The thought that these beautiful creatures may be destroyed for ever is troubling in itself; it is also a foreboding of man's inability to control his greed and selfishness. And so the major purpose of Whales: A Celebration is to gain support, both financial and moral, for the cause of the cetaceans: to demonstrate the strong international objection to their destruction and raise funds for the Greenpeace Foundation's "Save the Whales Campaign".

But Whales have long been in no danger of extinction. The International Whaling Commission was set up in 1946. As a result commercial whaling has been rigorously reduced and controlled. It is estimated that the ten major species have a population of 2.8 million. The total catch for 1983/4 was fixed at a little over 10,000. Whales are making a strong recovery from the depletions of centuries of whaling.



Fin whale from The Times Atlas of the Oceans

There is a problem with the white Bowhead whale living in the Arctic. These are hunted by Alaskan Eskimos for food and oil. Catching them is a part of the Eskimo culture and whaling is their chief status symbol. Money was injected into the Eskimo economy by companies drilling for oil. So the Eskimos were able to buy more whaling boats and kill more Bowhead whales. But not now. Members of the International Whaling Commission have persuaded the US Government to reduce the numbers which can be caught, to the annoyance of the Eskimos, from 79 in 1977 to a total of 45 for the whole of the three years 1981/3.

Nowhere are whales under any threat of disappearance from whaling. Pollution in some waters could become dangerous. Shipping noises can disrupt the directional hearing on which whales depend. Fishing for human needs for krill which many whales eat as their staple diet could make it difficult for them but the ecological



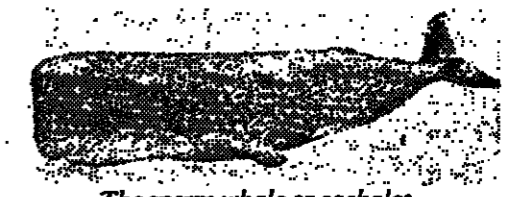
The slow-moving southern right whale

balance seems about right; though penguins whose diet is similar to whales' might have something to say about that. The more whales there are the less food for penguins and vice versa.

As for the beautiful intelligent dolphins they too, seem to be in no danger of vanishing. In some areas there is a threat to them but not over the world as a whole. Governments are aware that they must be protected. The American tuna industry had problems with dolphins a few years ago because the dolphins got caught in the tuna nets. Stringent regulations have been introduced into this type of fishing to reduce the mortality rate of dolphins. Man, it seems, is considerate for dolphins even when after food for himself.

Naturally none of the cheerful information about how whales and dolphins are getting on is contained in this book. That would spoil the fun. The contributions of the Greenpeace Foundation activists in this area is mainly to get in the way of whale boats fishing to strictly controlled limits in a manner which can be highly dangerous to seamen.

But don't let me put you off the book entirely. It is a collection of prose, poetry and pictures about whales and dolphins. Many of the pictures are good, the better the older they are, but some of the modern ones are meaningless. There are extracts from Moby Dick, of course, in which novel there is not much protest against whale catching; and all of the Book of Jonah is reproduced, happily in the King James's version. Yet I do not think this collection of this and that about whales and dolphins is worth £27.50 unless you wish to subscribe to the Greenpeace Foundation's "Save the Whales Campaign" which is redundant and serves no good at all.



The sperm whale or cachalot

Making newspapers redundant?

The Fifth Generation Japan's Computer Challenge to the World

By Edward A. Feigenbaum & Pamela McCorduck (Michael Joseph, £9.95)

The Fifth Generation is a lucid and powerful political tract. Its purpose is to launch a billion dollar crusade in the United States to develop computers with Artificial Intelligence.

The authors define AI, as it is known in the trade, as "making a computer behave in ways that mimic intelligent human behaviour."

And they make an articulate attempt to persuade us that such machines are worth making.

The Intelligent Newspaper is one of many possibilities discussed in the book: a computer terminal trained to pick out stories that will interest you from hundreds of electronic news sources. Another is a geriatric robot to care for old people while listening to their repetitive stories of the past, without ever becoming bored like a human companion.

But Feigenbaum and McCorduck rely more on the argument of industrial competition. Japan has embarked on a Fifth

Generation computer project that will give it worldwide industrial dominance unless the United States devote similar resources to AI.

The Jap-scare approach, with its appeals to American patriotism and to "national security", seems to be working. The book has had significant political impact in the United States, where the government and computer companies are now rallying for the crusade.

The Fifth Generation is undoubtedly the year's most important book about computers.

Clive Cookson

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At your bookseller now. BBC PUBLICATIONS

London and Paris

The success of Hugh Casson's drawings lies in their humanity and sense of scale while his photographic eye enables him to make buildings look right without artistic embellishment. His ability to show in a flash and in a few delicate colours exactly what he wants is a priceless gift.

In Hugh Casson's London (Dent, £9.95) his anecdotes are always fresh and sometimes quite unbelievable: did he really wear a long college scarf and plus-fours at Cambridge? His staccato prose occasionally brings one up short, but he is never at a loss for an apt adjective.

It is curious that most of the buildings he deals with are actually worth drawing and odd too is the fact that whereas his guardsmen are always correctly upright his civilians normally lean into a strong wind.

The London Encyclopaedia (Macmillan, £24), edited by Ben Weinreb and Christopher Hibbert, aims to tell us everything we should know about London. It relies upon, and acknowledges, many sources including Pevsner and the Survey of London, but I am worried by its inaccuracies. For example, Sir John Soane's Museum is referred to but has no entry; the tower of St Pancras Church is not a copy of

the Tower of the Winds in Athens, but includes some of its design elements and some from the Choragic Monument of Glicystrates; The Hayward Gallery was designed not by Ove Arup and Partners but by the Architects' Department of the GLC under Sir Hubert Bennett. Arup's were the structural consultants.

These mistakes do not amount to much unless you happen to be buffing up your facts for the BBC's Brain of Britain contest, but they are there.

Paris (Thames and Hudson, £25) makes a big initial impact. Author John Russell and I are more or less of an age and our few impressions of what I used to think of as the world's most beautiful city were much the same. Here he has made an excellent choice of paintings, prints and above all period photographs, but at first I thought the rather small print of the text was merely to keep the illustrations apart. I was wrong, it has much of interest, perhaps rather too much. The book was first published in 1960 and has been considerably enlarged to the point where it is almost an encyclopaedia. I wonder if that is a good thing.

Gontran Goulden

SUSPENSE FROM MACMILLAN. A FLAW IN THE SYSTEM. EMMA LATHEN writing as R. B. DOMINIC. 'A clever murder puzzle and expert crescendo of complications' H. R. F. Keating, The Times. £6.95. THE RIDDLE OF THE THIRD MILE. COLIN DEXTER. 'His mastery at toggling the reader round the next corner never flags.' John Coleman, The Sunday Times. £7.50. THE NAME OF ANNABEL LEE. JULIAN SYMONS. 'Cunningly contrived and seductively written by one of the best craftsmen in the narrative trade' Christopher Pym, Punch. £6.95. WINTER'S CRIMES 15. EDITED BY GEORGE HARDINGE. The fifteenth volume in the series, containing new stories specially written by twelve top crime fiction authors. £6.95. ASK A POLICEMAN. THE DETECTION CLUB. A gem from the heyday of English detective fiction, with Dorothy L. Sayers and four distinguished members of the Detection Club offering different solutions to a classic murder mystery. £7.50.

Fiction Phagors, fuggies and bips

Helliconia Summer By Brian Aldiss (Cape, £8.50)

Light By Eva Figs (Hamish Hamilton, £6.95)

The first volume of Aldiss's Helliconia trilogy established an Earth-like planet which, he hoped, mirrored our concerns. "No one wants a passport to a nation of talking slugs." There was nothing slight about Helliconia. Spring except its pace which, for me at least, destroyed that planet's "particular interest for the people of Earth." It read like a sophisticated shaggy-dog story revolving slowly around the rivalry between man and that beast-species (which can see in the dark and stand motionless for hours) - the phagor.

Things hot up considerably in this second instalment, concentrating on the events of six months rather than hundreds of years and it contains the phagors, albeit temporarily, to a servile role. The King of Bortien, a moody mixture of Hamlet and Henry the Eighth, becomes convinced his country will only survive if it enters an alliance with neighbouring Olorando. He is persuaded to divorce his beautiful Queen - on the pretext that she has consorted carnally with dolphins - and marry the 11-year-old Princess of Olorando. Never mind that the characters have names like runny noses, for this is a familiar tale, told intelligently and with assurance, of survival and

power and love; a tale which smacks less of science fiction than medieval romance. What jars is the method by which we are made aware it is science fiction, scrutinizing the antics of King Jandrol Anganol and Queen Myrdem Ingalia (try those without a hanky) in a spaceship from Earth on which is held, wait for it, the millions of Hellidies Lottery. This winner, in this case a boy called Billy, gets a one-way ticket to Helliconia knowing full well he will succumb to the belico-virus and die. I could have done without Billy.

This novel's strength over its predecessor lies as much in the structure as the story, which, narrated in a round-about way, emphasizes Helliconia's principal difference with Earth: the length of its years. Other differences are conveyed by means of an indigenous vocabulary. In some places its details are so dense and technical that one glosses over them; in others a glossary is needed to distinguish between fessups, fuggies and stungebags. In the main, though, this vocabulary does give credence to a successfully imagined world. It doesn't take a specialist to understand the Helliconian girl who complains "you're hurting my bips."

"I have had my vision," proclaims the artist Lily Brisco at the end of To the Lighthouse. I have almost had Eva Figs's. One cries Woolf yet again in reading Light which was shortlisted for the Whitbread Fiction Prize. One also cries Figs. "Light", began her last novel Waking, which in its limpid, poetic prose recalled The

Waves. "Glowing yellow. It spills into the room of wavering shadows and forms a pool on the floor." Not much has changed in Light, where "strips of light spilled on the waxed floor in bright pools."

This novella follows a day in the life of the Monet family from dawn to dusk one summer's day at Giverny. The style, like the content, is impressionistic. "We live in a luminous cloud of changing light, a sort of envelope," explains Monet. "That is what I have to catch." In the blue-grey hush before dawn he goes to paint his lily pond in which, like a polished mirror, is trapped earth, water and sky. He blows smoke rings and feels himself inside an "aquamarine bubble."

On dry land, as the sun floods the air with "white and gold, so the night was visible but light itself" his granddaughter, Lily, blows bubbles of soap from a clay pipe and feels "an urge to talk to pansies." A friend joins the family for lunch; Lily's widowed father returns from Paris and that, really, is that. It is fragile, shimmering and somewhat transparent world that Figs paints; a world which though drenched with all the colours of the rainbow, leaves the mind a blank. To read her delicate, elegant, but unadventurous prose is to look through a stocking that is sometimes silken sometimes nylon. Light may be an often beautifully painted still life, but one certainly feels the static.

Nicholas Shakespeare

Crime Hard truths about prejudice

The Dark Fantastic By Stanley Ellin (Andre Deutsch, £8.95)

Here is a book by one of the truth-tellers. In crime fiction, where emphasis is placed on boiling up excitement, ingenious reader tricking, and other tradesman's devices, such books are rare, though Ellin is by no means the only truth-teller in the field. But he is decidedly there, in whatever aspect of his story he is handling. The nasty equally with the good are depicted so as you believe this is what such people are like, through and through. The tough and the touching, the hater and the lovers, all are made to seem real.

But excitement, that contractual quality in this sort of novel, is in no way sacrificed. Ellin's story tells of a madman, or near madman, determined to blow up a New York tenement inhabited by blacks and of the Italian-American private investigator who, by chance, is drawn into discovering what is happening. And Ellin tells this tale for a reason: to write about prejudice. Centrally he con-

siders race prejudice, that itch so much more deeply embedded in the American psyche than in ours. (After all, it was at the heart of their Civil War almost within living memory, as ours with its equivalent religious prejudice is not.) But peripherally Ellin is able to deal with national prejudice and sex prejudice too, each reflecting on his theme, neither ousting his story.

Add that he writes American, that invigoratingly punchy language, and you have a book to savour. There are one-liners in the high tradition (a man "so cagey he wouldn't enter a confessional without taking his lawyer along") and there are incidental phrases sharp as cattle-goats ("The sight... goosed Mustache into action"). These come by the dozen. They speed you along at stampede pace.

The Hanging Tree, by Bill Knox (Hutchinson, £7.95). Scots-eye-view of the newest major crime, video, piracy, with not even murder barred. If you can imagine porridge made exciting, this is it.

State's Evidence, by Stephen Greenleaf (New English Library, £8.95). Today's version of the classic American private-eye tale with all the good ingredients, plus, alas, a plethora of long words over too many pages.

The Pangersbourne Murders, by Jeremy Smeacock (Hale, £7.95). Rollicking Georgian investigation into homicidal malfeasance. Period detail pops up a-gogo, if not always quite convincingly.

The Russian Intelligence, by Michael Moorcock (The English Library, £7.95). Can you revise a Jane? S.F. prodigal prizewinner Moorcock has with this 1966 nudge-nudge spy frolic re-vamped, bludgeon sarcasm and all.

The Cruise of a Deathtime, by Marian Babson (Collins, £6.75). Cumulative corpses aboard, with a sharp look at maritime fun. Miss Babson happily and adroitly light fantastics the trip.

H. R. F. Keating

# THE TIMES DIARY

## Going up, and up

The Chief of the Defence Staff has always been chosen according to the principle of Buggins' turn, the heads of the three services rotating as overall chief. According to these rules, the next Chief should be Air Chief Marshal Sir Keith Williamson. It is far more likely, however, that he will be passed over in favour of Sir John Fieldhouse, Chief of Naval Staff and First Sea Lord, who distinguished himself during the Falklands war. Last month, Sir John received a further distinction: he was made an honorary member of the Halley's Comet Society in a ceremony which took place in the King Henry VIII cellar at the Ministry of Defence.

## Mandarin red

The Association of First Division Civil Servants, which is affiliated to the TUC, has a suitably workmanlike diary for 1984. It is bound in dark red leatherette and contains a London underground map and lists of leave allowances. Fittingly, for such a top people's union, it also includes a vintage chart.

## 'Ark at that

London schoolchildren sang a new, downbeat carol at the ILEA carol festival earlier this week. Called *The Reindeer Song*, its chorus goes: "I'm a fourth-rate, clapped-out reindeer. Can't get my footwork right. I'm gonna wreck that sleigh-ride. Gonna goof it on the night."

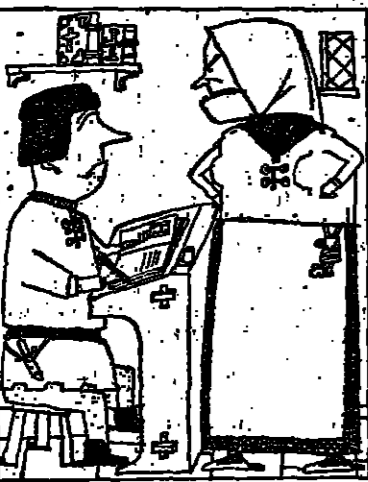
ILEA music coordinator Rosemary Mitchell, who wrote the lyrics, said she thought all the existing reindeer songs "very mawkish". She describes her new version as "a street-culture kind of song - the children sing it in a very London way, like street arabs."

Discussing the noble pedigree of George de Stacpoole, new-born heir to a viscountcy, marquisate and Ireland's only papal dukedom, the *Irish Independent* insists that the baby's ancestors came over with Sir William the Conqueror.

## Flat out

Anyone about to park a radio-controlled toy car in a Christmas stocking should be aware that a full-sized family car is probably cheaper to run. A collector returned a toy version to the shop where he had bought it the day before for his son's birthday. He complained that the toy had ceased to function quite early on the birthday morn and was told, "It's the batteries, Sir. They only last seven minutes." At £1.20 a set, that's more expensive than three-star petrol.

BARRY FANTONI



"Books, books, books... we'll get fat on books"

## Software

In announcing voting procedures for the *Today* programme's Man and Woman of the Year event, announcer Peter Hobday seemed to be asking for the title of Male Chauvinist of the Year for himself. He asked listeners who wished to nominate both a man and a woman to list the names on separate postcards because the BBC's computer could not cope with two surnames on one card - "the computer, I'm afraid, being somewhat human and female."

## Going down roses

Next April, Chatto and Windus publish *A Nice Girl Like Me*, an account of journalist Rosie Boycott's battle with alcohol. The catalogue description runs: "After her time at the exclusive Cheltenham Ladies' College, Rosie found her way into the London counter-culture of the Seventies, experimenting with dope, sex and booze. She wound up in Thailand on drug smuggling charges. She spent time in an Indian ashram watching a friend die of cancer. Then somehow it all went wrong."

## Jacked-up

London's casino owners had better look sharp now Doug is back in town. Doug isn't his real name but then neither is Frank Draxman, which he sometimes uses. Two years ago, Doug bought a computer and taught himself how to programme it to keep track of every single card dealt during a game of blackjack. Fuzzed casino owners in Las Vegas aren't sure what he's up to but a lot of them, knowing he's up to something, have denied him entrance. Doug reasons that if he gets thrown out of every casino in America, he may have to settle here - hence his reluctance to reveal his real name. He can be seen on television in *A Wedding in Las Vegas*, on BBC1 on December 27. What you can't see is how he uses computer technology to get a mathematical advantage over the casino.

PHS

# Coming to terms with the evil eye

The Commons are dithering on the brink of television. Resistance looks dated and fast-ditch. Yet we will still have to be pushed into our final decision. That push into the twentieth century could well be administered by a bastion of the nineteenth, the House of Lords.

Instead of concentrating on the realities of our role and how it can be made relevant to a modern society in which people get most of their news and information from television, the argument in Parliament has been dominated by prejudice and fear. Most MPs still like to see the chamber as a forum for persuasion by deliberation. In fact, of course, we have government by party, the verdict pre-ordained. Yet the party battle can have no din, its stage no audience, unless both reach the public. At the moment they clearly do not. On this rational basis there is no real argument against television. We use it or Parliament continues to decline in reliance, respect and public standing.

Television has the audience whose attention the politicians seek. Unable to counter parliamentary politics in any mediagenic way, it has been forced to stage its own political circus with Sir Robin and Alistair and others as ring masters. We now view the results with a mixture of fear and envy, eager to appear but always ready to cry foul.

Parliament deals with eternal verities; television sensationalizes, trivializes, dilutes with entertainment. In short, it distorts. But the other fear is contradictory. We also worry that television will show Parliament's reality, the vast acres of empty benches, MPs sleeping, gossiping, picking their noses,

## As the House of Lords prepares to debate the television of its proceedings, Austin Mitchell MP urges his colleagues in both houses to take the last steps towards admitting the cameras

or alternatively shouting, screaming, hounding Mrs Thatcher and generally re-enacting feeding time at Whipsnade.

The arguments against admitting the cameras are as strong, as prejudiced and as irrelevant as ever, but the Commons have now voted, albeit by a small majority, in favour of the principle.

Younger MPs are less deferential to encrusted tradition: public opinion is in favour and most other legislatures have shown the way. Finally, cable is coming, with it the ability to do what radio should be doing: providing continuous coverage of the kind that those interested can tune into and drop out of as they wish.

This is the importance of the Lords' vote. Because television confers importance on anything it covers - indeed many people assume that nothing can be important unless covered by television - televising the Lords would threaten the Commons' primacy. More important, though, the Lords can show that television can improve and

not demean, that serious discussion of serious issues does occur.

It's a shame that the raw material, their lordships, is not as good as we can offer. Yet their experience will allow fears to vanish like mist before the rising sun. Soon we will all be wondering why we never had television before. What took us so long?

Which leaves only the technical problem of what kind of coverage. My own Bills have been based on introducing the Canadian system: coverage by unobtrusive, wall-mounted cameras, neutral mid-shots of the Member speaking with no cutaways or reaction shots, the whole controlled by the Member himself, just as *Hansard* is. This makes for duller television - the broadcasting organizations are not happy with it - but I opted for it because it makes introduction easier.

Unfortunately, such coverage is expensive: installation in the USA cost \$1.2m. The television channels can be asked to contribute but the costs must come from the public purse, which is hardly an attractive proposal for a government like the present. The Lords, being bolder spirits, may well opt for the alternative, which is to hand themselves over to the TV organizations.

The Government could opt for a compromise: outside money, ultimate control inside. These considerations are tactical and technical. The reality is that we stand on the brink of change. The Government should take us there.

The author is Labour MP for Grimsby.

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## Land of myth and missile: Roger Boyes reports from East Germany

# Behind the wire, a chill wind of war

Berlin War and peace, hell and heaven: visions of the apocalypse crowd the thicket woodland of Thuringia, with its witches and its imps, its T-72 tanks and sparking new missiles. This is the front line of the Warsaw Pact and the nervousness of the East Germans is everywhere in evidence. In the air there is *Kriegsstimmung*, war-mood, though the official talk is of peace, of special peace: in the factories, of concerts for peace, of peace film festivals.

Soviet soldiers are ubiquitous: political officers with relatively long hair and bulging briefcases read *Izvestia* on the commuter trains, callow conscripts from Kirghizia, barely able to speak Russian and bewildered by the Germans, thrust a movement order at a passer-by, hoping for directions they can understand. The smell of their damp snow-slicked gaiters mingles with the scents of Christmas, the pine and the candles.

Hell, we know from Thuringian mythology, is in East Germany. The story goes that a pious English noblewoman (queen in some accounts) named Reinswig was informed that her husband, recently dead, could be heard howling and screaming in hell's torment from deep within a cave in the village of Saetlestaett. At the entrance of hell, she set up a chapel to administer to the damned and for a while the soul of her husband was at peace.

Nowadays in Saetlestaett the images of hell and the loud gnashing of teeth come from the television sets. Almost every household in East Germany - the notable exception is Dresden - can pick up West German television and there was scarcely a family in the state that did not follow the recent parliamentary debates in Bonn on the stationing of cruise and Pershing. For once the *Schwarze Kanal* - the Black Channel - did not undermine the East German propaganda machine, but rather supported it, fed the new myths of Thuringia to the East German viewer.

It seemed as if devil-in-the-flesh Reagan, assisted ably by his apprentice Helmut Kohl, had trampled on public opinion and imposed a new tension on East-West relations that would above all hurt the East Germans. "Do you think the East is going to make any easier for us to travel to the West? It's a mistake, a blunder," thus a young teenager who in the West would clearly have been a Green.



The Bundestag vote, poached from the television screens, had two other effects on the public mood: it made it easier for those whose official role is to justify new Soviet missiles to the East German population and it has made the work of the fledgling unofficial peace movement in Eastern Europe more difficult (though, they would say, more urgent).

Red banners in Weimar, in Erfurt, shout about the indestructible friendship with the Soviet Union and the Soviet army, rather as an Oxford Street tout will hoarsely advertise the merits of a toy designed to withstand the bombardment of a three-year-old. The Russians are known, often ironically, sometimes with a pitying shrug, as the "friends". There are quite a lot of friends: most western estimates say 380,000 men in East Germany, a large proportion of them in Thuringia. Add some 10,000 main battle tanks and the armoury of long and not-so-long-range missiles and it becomes clear that this friendship, if not indestructible, is at least enduring.

Moreover with an East German "people's army" of 115,000 and an active force of 50,000 border troops, there seems little doubt that this is one of the most densely militarized areas in the world. As befits a friendship sealed in Potsdam rather than heaven, the Russians keep their distance. In their Erfurt barracks they have their own cinema, library and clubroom. When they come to town they are kept on a tight leash. Free German Youth (FDJ) activists deny there is any tension between the Russians and the East

Germans and say too that the new western missiles will cement the relationship. "As soon as the Bundestag made its decisions there were spontaneous meetings in factories to discuss the situation. There is no room for doubt any more."

But there are doubters still. Many church communities have been expressing their fears about the new Soviet missiles, though they must do so discreetly, for this is dangerous terrain. Speakers at the recent Mecklenburg synod criticized the missiles, and the parish of Babelsberg sent a letter to the party leader, Erich Honecker - printed in the party daily *Neues Deutschland* - saying they were deeply afraid of a "deterioration in the situation between the two superpowers" (without pinning the blame solely on the United States).

The swords-into-ploughshares symbol of the East German peace movement, possession of which was once enough to attract detention and questioning, is back, printed on bookmarks and pamphlets.

The difference between the West and East German peace movements, besides the obvious contrasts in size and legality, is that the West is concerned with protesting against its limited sovereignty, the sense of powerlessness that comes when American hardware is distributed throughout the German countryside. The East Germans have lived with limited sovereignty for a long time and they know that a Soviet withdrawal is not feasible, not a realistic goal.

Instead, the movement - nobody knows how many people it embrac-

es, perhaps several hundred in Jena and East Berlin - concentrates on trying to slow down the pace of the militarization of East German society. Priests complain that children have problems at school if they do not take part in para-military training, that apprentices are forced as part of their contract to take part in shooting exercises.

The peace activists in Jena, some of whom are now in jail, want more open discussion of the possibility of a nuclear-free Europe; the honouring of the right of conscripts to serve in construction brigades rather than carry arms; a guarantee that women will not be recruited into the army. The harassment of these activists continues.

But in general *Kriegsstimmung* leads not to dissident pressure for action against Soviet missiles, but rather for a more sympathetic attitude to Honecker's leadership. This Mr Honecker exploits with some tactical skill. He tells the Central Committee that new Soviet missiles will be stationed at a faster rate to counter the cruise and Pershing, but this is firmly identified as the fault of the West. At the same time he declares that he is open to any new initiative to improve relations with Bonn.

It is the mime of injured innocence, an oddly credible act for his citizens. And somewhere amid all the manoeuvring, buck-passing and propaganda games, the actual cause of the fuss, the stationing of Soviet SS-20 missiles, has been forgotten, buried under the images of nuclear war and nuclear peace, of hell and heaven.

Ronald Butt

# Floored by their very own flaw

Mr Giles Radice, Labour spokesman on education, Mr Fred Jarvis of the National Union of Teachers, and Mr John Swallow, president of the National Association of Head Teachers, have pronounced judgment on the Cox-Marks report on *Standards in English Schools*. Their finding is that the Department of Education and Science has been misled.

Baroness Cox and Dr John Marks, of the National Council for Educational Standards, had produced a report whose research showed that the examination results of grammar and secondary modern schools together were better than those of comprehensive schools. It immediately encountered bitter hostility from educational writers. Sir Keith Joseph, Education Secretary, then asked the DES statisticians to appraise the report. Subsequently, a series of leaks from the DES told the world that the Cox-Marks research had been found, by the department's experts, to be "seriously flawed".

Verbatim extracts of parts of the DES critique, selected to convey this message, appeared in parts of the press, but Baroness Cox and Dr Marks were in no position to defend their research since the DES would not give them a copy. Eventually, however, the authors managed to get a copy from a journalist less hostile to their point of view. They also received a letter from Sir Keith Joseph refusing any DES funding for their future research, but suggesting a meeting between the authors and DES statisticians.

The meeting took place in the presence of Sir Keith, and the statisticians admitted that an error of their own in appraising the report had been responsible for the doubts about the representativeness of the Cox-Marks sample. They were now reassured that the sample had been representative.

The only significant question remaining was how far class and economic circumstances were material to such research. It was agreed that the Cox-Marks report had taken account of as much evidence of this sort as was available from the DES, but that the DES ought to, and would, make more such evidence generally available.

This amicable conclusion was reached, after which Sir Keith published the agreed DES statement welcoming the pioneering work of the NCES, and accepting its statistical validity. Contrary to some reports, he said, the DES did not regard it as "seriously flawed". Where, then, had this accusation come from? Not from the chief statistician, Mr Wakefield, who pointed out that he had never used it.

The question is of considerable interest now that Mr Radice, writing to *The Times* (Dec 3) has condemned the "blatant political pressure applied in an attempt to override the DES's careful assessment of the report" and Mr Jarvis and Mr Swallow in a further letter (Dec 6), have said that Sir Keith should speak up for his staff against its critics given the "constitutional limitation" (no irony is presumably intended) on their freedom to respond to public criticism.

Having now obtained a copy of the leaked (if less than "careful") DES critique, I am able to explain all, and a wondrous story it is. The critique was in three parts. First, there was the statisticians' report. This, despite its own admitted statistical error, was by no means crudely hostile to the Cox-Marks research, which it recognized as pioneering work serving "a most useful purpose."

Paul Pickering

# Run from the rabbit, run, run, run

An enormous white rabbit is lurking among the slag heaps of south Yorkshire, having evaded the efforts of the local constabulary and rabbit experts brought in to track him down. Buck, as he is called, is from New Zealand and is apparently rather larger than a Labrador, being four and a half feet long. He has a nasty temper when roused.

"It's a sign," said my grandfather. "White beasts are always a portent of doom and disaster, and things going wrong in the world." Certainly if one caught sight of pink-eyed Buck starting to dig Bakerloo Line-sized burrows under one's house it would be bad luck indeed.

Buck is dangerous when cornered, and far from the well-behaved, cultured creature with a waistcoat and pocket watch, that Alice meets in Wonderland, he has a hatred of the precious Pommie attitude to rabbits as cuddly bundles of fur who will repay with affection a draughty hutch and occasional mouldy cabbage. He loathes children.

"If threatened by a stranger, Buck would first try to find a way out, to run," said his owner, Mr Arthur Butterfield. "But then, if there was nowhere left to go, he would stand and fight, biting and scratching with his teeth and claws. He is very powerful." In short, Buck is the rabbit equivalent of Moby Dick.

"He was always a right with me though," said Arthur, a former haulage contractor who took to rabbits after his business folded. "You just have to get to know him, but my wife could not get near him. He didn't like anyone he didn't know and would never let children play with him."

There's no way a total stranger could do anything with him, and a friend of mine got terrible scratches when we were having a look at an inch long and razor sharp. If someone has rustled him, he must have had a struggle."

But sightings of the antipodean

Secondly, there was the department's own "commentary" (also six pages) by the schools' branch. Though it spoke of "serious criticisms" of data and methodology, it noted the report's "stimulus to public debate" particularly since "exam results are now very much on the agenda in comparing different types of school system." But what matters is the third part, a two-page covering memorandum by Mr N. W. Stuart of the School Branch.

Attached is the Department's commentary, commissioned by the Secretary of State. He wrote: "It concludes that the research methods were flawed to the extent that the findings must be open to serious question." As for the "elusive prospect" of a final, decisive piece of research to resolve the difference between the two sides of the schools system argument, "I am driven towards the conclusion that this is a fundamental political and philosophical divide, with research just one of the instruments of battle."

This was "important in considering where we go next". If the NCES were refused funding, Mr Stuart wrote, the Secretary of State would "upset his political friends." But if he said yes, there would be "uplift in academic circles (which, precisely, is not where there is no confidence in the NCES's professional ability to conduct statistically-based research."

There must, he thought, be a temptation to "hold the ring" and for the DES itself to commission an authoritative piece of research work in this area. He then describes, briefly, two possible models for it, adding blandly: "Whatever the model, a good deal of further work would be needed (and I note now that at its present completion my branch does not have the manpower available to take this on) before research bodies were invited to tender for what would be an expensive and lengthy project."

Oh, Sir Humphrey, bow your head for you have met your better! Was there ever a neater way of condemning a piece of research, unheard, behind the closed doors of Whitehall, and of putting its purpose on ice? But it was the least polemic of the authors' condemnations (of which, of course, I do not suggest that Mr Stuart himself was aware) which was the really heavy stuff, denigrating *bona fide* research which would have been defenceless if Sir Keith had not intervened.

Such is the officialdom to whose rescue Messrs Jarvis, Swallow and Radice gallop with, as their only ammunition, a letter from Mr Wakefield to the NCES authors, and Sir Keith Joseph's letter turning down the NCES funds application, both of which were written before the departmental retractions they should do their homework better.

All this has serious educational implications but it is also an example of an increasingly prevalent kind of Whitehall leak (particularly from the "social" departments, which have their own highly politicized positions) designed to frustrate any development repugnant to received departmental doctrine.

The attempted desecrating of the Cox-Marks report is one of three such incidents from the DES. It has backfired, and the authors have been able to defend themselves, but only by accident. It is, of course, the business of the journalist (with few exceptions) to publish what he can get from any source. But it is not the business of civil servants to indulge in this kind of politics. When a department has something of this sort to say, it should say it openly, provided its Minister agrees.

كوتا من الأصل



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### TIME TO SIT TIGHT

It is very tempting for Britain to sit back and enjoy the crisis into which the failure of the Athens summit has plunged the European Community. The essence of British complaints about the Community has always been that it is too expensive, and that far too high a proportion of the money spent goes on agriculture, a sector which is relatively less important in the British economy than in those of most of our partners. In the past Britain has been able to do little about this except rant and rave. By behaving very badly, we have each year managed to bully or cajole our partners into giving us some of our money back.

We had to behave badly, because the rules were laid against us before we ever joined the Community, through a deal between France and West Germany in the mid 1960s. France got the Common Agricultural Policy as the price for opening its market to German industrial goods. The policy meant that agricultural products could be sold throughout the Community at a fixed price, protected by a common external tariff and maintained through a common fund which purchased any surplus. By a further twist, the prices of many products were fixed higher than France would have required, so as to ensure that West Germany's relatively inefficient farmers did not lose out.

Britain, with few, but relatively efficient, farmers, and with consumers used to cheap imported food, had little to gain from this arrangement but until now has lacked the clout to get it

changed. At last the ever-rising cost of the policy has provided us with a lever, as well as bringing at least some of our partners some of the way round to our point of view. Others beside us are beginning to feel that the expenditure pinch. In any case the Community cannot, without a unanimous decision of its members, extract from them an income equivalent to more than one per cent of value added in all taxable transactions. Spending as it now is, the Community is about to hit its head hard against that ceiling, and the ceiling cannot be raised without British consent.

Britain wants a package of reforms including reduced expenditure. If Britain is not satisfied expenditure will have to be reduced anyway. So this time Britain does not need to behave badly. She can sit demure and smug, with arms folded, until her partners come up with a proposal she is willing to accept.

That being so, suggestions that we should withhold our budget contribution or resort to sanctions against our partners are quite unnecessary and betray a misunderstanding of the situation. They would only be in order if our partners resort to breaking the rules in an attempt to ignore our demands. On this issue we can afford a policy of "no first strike".

What we should be doing now is calculating the price we can reasonably expect to charge for our eventual agreement to an increase in "own resources", and deploying our most intense and persuasive diplomacy to convince our partners - that is, public opinion as well as govern-

ments in fellow member-states - that it is a price worth paying because the Community as a whole, not just Britain, needs an equitable financial system and a reasonable balance of expenditure. There is no need to envenom the atmosphere. On the contrary, we can afford, and we need, to mount an *offensive de charme*.

We should draw attention, especially, to the plight of the most innocent victims of the present crisis: the Spanish and Portuguese, who are waiting for the Community to pull itself together sufficiently to give a clear answer to their applications for membership. It is in the context of their joining, as members with a lower than average per capita GNP, that an overall increase in Community expenditure would actually make some sense. The package that includes such an increase must also include terms for their admission. Otherwise there is a real risk that Spanish attitudes to the Community, in particular, will go sour.

Spain, like Britain, has historically been ambivalent about her relationship to the European continent. In the last ten years or so she has made tremendous efforts to affirm her European identity. If now rebuffed, or kept waiting indefinitely on the doorstep, she may have second thoughts. That would have negative implications for her membership of Nato, for the prospects of defusing the Gibraltar issue (and so for Anglo-Spanish bilateral relations), and perhaps even for Spanish democracy. Avoiding it should be a high priority, for Britain and for Europe.

### ANSWERING THAT FILM

Lord Reith observed in 1927 that he and his BBC colleagues had "responsibilities far heavier than had ever fallen to the lot of any other group of individuals". Even Lord Reith perhaps dropped this hyperbole in a spirit of sombre hyperbole, but his successors have never lost sight of the weight of responsibility that control of the media imposes. Neither have politicians, who sometimes court and sometimes resent the independence of those in charge of the means of publicity. A complex and partly unwritten code governs the relationship between government and broadcasters. Mr Michael Heseltine is reported to have proposed a new clause in that code by asking for exclusive television time to make a comment at the end of the film *The Day After* on ITV on Saturday.

Reviewers who saw the film in the USA last month found it sentimental and unsubtle, but striking in dramatic force and technical effects. Mr Heseltine's desire to strike out into the field of dramatic criticism has less to do with production values than with possible political effect. Fiction does not have to be a major work of art to have political impact. *Uncle Tom's*

*Cabin* was also sentimental, but it made people attend to a great injustice, and its influence on opinion was profound.

Mr Heseltine is acutely aware of the danger of letting the unilateralists gain the initiative in the debate over defence. The danger is real. CND is preparing itself to capitalize on fears and dependencies that the film may provoke. The Government is right to respond energetically. The horrors of nuclear war are evidence that can be turned to account by advocates of security through deterrence and the search for peace through bilateral negotiation, quite as relevantly as by unilateralists. It is well for the public to be reminded of what is at stake from time to time, as Mr Heseltine appreciated when he urged people to see the film.

But to seek exclusive time to put an official gloss on the film immediately after it is broadcast risks making the film out to be more important than it is. Mr George Shultz did so in the USA, but the conventions are different there, and perhaps the message implicit in such a step is different. No minister in Britain has ever sought a right of television reply to a work of fiction, however distorted he

may have considered it to be. Such a precedent would harmfully trivialize ministerial statements and express lack of trust in the judgments of the broadcasting authorities and of the public.

The Secretary of State has the option of requesting a formal ministerial broadcast, which would go out on all channels - BBC as well as ITV - and would give opposition parties a right of reply. The unwritten code does not oblige the authorities to accede to his request, but they would be unlikely to refuse even where it was so plainly an excessive response. Mr Heseltine has been invited to take part in the discussion programme afterwards, but such programmes rarely rise far above the bandying of slogans, and he is right to be reluctant. A minister of the Crown never lacks means of making his views public, and it is an error to give the appearance of trying to get round the conventions by seeking what would in effect be a ministerial broadcast, without right of reply for his opponents. The British public is not so immature that it cannot be trusted to keep its head over a piece of science

### NEWS MANAGEMENT IN MOSCOW

The appearance of Soviet leaders at press conferences in Moscow is part of a more sophisticated approach to the Western media; it is not however a step towards more open government. The job of a foreign correspondent in the USSR is difficult. If he pursues the news in a manner considered normal in other countries, he risks immediate expulsion for espionage. He is obliged to obtain permission from the authorities before making any trip out of the capital. Yet if he confine himself to analysing reports in the official press, he may as well operate at home and save his employers the vast expense of maintaining a Moscow correspondent.

The Kremlin has long been distributing its own publications, translated into the major languages of the world, in the hope of influencing public opinion outside the Soviet block. Like the foreign broadcasts of Moscow Radio, however, these periodicals are so clearly propagandist in style and content that their impact is minimal. Now the Soviet leaders have discovered that if they are prepared to be photographed and interviewed by foreign correspondents, their views are assured more news space and attention in the West than when merely circulated in their own controlled media.

Monday's press conference with three leading Soviet spokesmen, including Marshal Nikolai Ogarkov, the Chief of Staff, was aimed at persuading the public in NATO countries that their government, by proceeding with the deployment of US missiles in Western Europe, were wholly responsible for the Soviet departure from the Geneva talks on intermediate nuclear forces. Moscow was clearly sending a message to those who wish to disarm the West unilaterally, encouraging them to continue their demonstrations. Mr Georgy Kornienko, a deputy foreign minister, denied claims by Western leaders that Soviet negotiators would soon return to Geneva "as if nothing had happened" and Marshal Ogarkov hinted that the strategic arms talks (START) which end their current round on Thursday are also at risk. He also seized the opportunity to attack the US air raid on Syrian positions in Lebanon, calling it "bandit action".

While earlier press conferences, such as that held in April by the Foreign Minister and Politburo member Andrei Gromyko, were obviously presenting the views of the top party leadership, both this latest session and the September conference on the Korean airliner gave prominence to the military in the person of Marshal Ogarkov. But this does not mean that the military are determining foreign policy in the absence of firm leadership by President Andropov. All three leaders at Monday's press conference are members of the party's Central Committee. Marshal Ogarkov is also First Deputy Defence Minister, the Defence Minister himself, Marshal Dimitri Ustinov, is a full member of the ruling Politburo. There is no evidence to suggest that any major divergence exists in the foreign policy aims of party leadership and military command. Both are firmly united in their hostility towards the West.

The problem for the organizers of such press conferences is that Western correspondents are undisciplined, and persistently ask awkward questions. Queried about the state of President Andropov's health, and as to whether he was recovering from

a serious operation, to account for his non-appearance for 110 days, Mr Leonid Zamyatin angrily repeated the official line that the Soviet leader, who has not been seen in public since mid-August, had been suffering from a cold, but was now able to deal with the main matters of government.

While earlier press conferences, such as that held in April by the Foreign Minister and Politburo member Andrei Gromyko, were obviously presenting the views of the top party leadership, both this latest session and the September conference on the Korean airliner gave prominence to the military in the person of Marshal Ogarkov. But this does not mean that the military are determining foreign policy in the absence of firm leadership by President Andropov. All three leaders at Monday's press conference are members of the party's Central Committee. Marshal Ogarkov is also First Deputy Defence Minister, the Defence Minister himself, Marshal Dimitri Ustinov, is a full member of the ruling Politburo. There is no evidence to suggest that any major divergence exists in the foreign policy aims of party leadership and military command. Both are firmly united in their hostility towards the West.

journalist to bring out a paper when we had no local quarrel. Among those who supported my stand at that time were people as diverse as Mr Joe Wade, of the NGA, and the late Lord Kemsley. When, on December 4, NGA members at the *News of the World* decided to censor an article, I bled, not for Sir Woodrow Wyatt as the concerned journalist and not for the *News of the World*, but for some NGA members who use their temporary muscle to show in this

### NGA dispute

From Mr Claud Morris  
Sir, Some years ago, in a now forgotten national print dispute, I resigned the chairmanship of the Welsh Newspaper Proprietors' Association rather than lock out my NGA staff and be involved in one of those games of musical chairs that have destroyed many a free newspaper. In that instance I defended the NGA's right to work with me as a

instance not contempt of court, but contempt for journalism. I hope those who see their path to trade union triumph marked by square white blanks in the free press realise that the union might fail to secure a chair for itself in this game of musical chairs if free trade unionism is one day itself destroyed and the music stops. Yours faithfully, CLAUD MORRIS, 15A Lowndes Street, SW1, December 15.

### Safeguarding the homebuyer

From Mr Graham Lee  
Sir, In all the argument about the House Buyers Bill one fact is perhaps, being lost sight of. This is that essentially the whole business of who does conveyancing is about consumer protection. Whatever the rights or wrongs of the so-called "monopoly" of solicitors in conveyancing matters, the Austin Mitchell Bill is an appalling piece of drafting which, by any objective standard, will substantially and seriously reduce the protection of the consumer - the homebuyer. What the buyer requires is the certainty that the home he is buying will belong to him, with no problems; he is not buying an insurance policy, which is all the Bill provides for.

A recent survey undertaken by MORI (whose Bob Worcester has been described by Austin Mitchell as the "best pollster in the business") for The Law Society reveals that 62 per cent of homebuyers consider the most important thing they want their solicitor to do is conduct the work thoroughly, whilst only 4 per cent think giving the cheap quote is most important. This, together with the fact, already reported by you, that 87 per cent of recent homebuyers are satisfied with their solicitor's service, demonstrates that Austin Mitchell has got it quite wrong.

A licensed conveyancer under this Bill, which provides for no qualification, training, or test of competence at all, is hardly likely to be able to produce the thorough job the homebuyer wants! Yours faithfully, GRAHAM LEE, Secretary, Professional Development Department, The Law Society, 113 Chancery Lane, WC2, December 6.

From Mr Paul Randall  
Sir, Ms Jane Bradley suggests (December 6) that the public would be protected from negligent licensed conveyancers by the virtue of their being insured on an indemnity basis, but that such insurance would only be obtained on proof of "sound practical experience". If the experience is a prerequisite of the insurance, how is it to be gained? The title of "solicitor" is not easily come by and the cost to practitioners of their indemnity policy is far from inconsiderable. Yours faithfully, PAUL RANDALL, 31 Avon Road, Sunbury-on-Thames, Middlesex, December 6.

### The Severn barrier

From Mr C. K. Haswell  
Sir, The letters of Mr Richard Cottrell (November 19) and Dr Geoffrey Kellaway (November 25) relating to the crossing of the Severn estuary merit correction in the context of the two existing driven tunnel links. The first, constructed between 1873 and 1886, was the original Severn tunnel, providing a rail link between England and Wales. It was a great feat of engineering, carried out in the foreknowledge that it was no easy task. Indeed, it remains arguably Britain's most celebrated tunnel, only second to Brunel's famous first crossing beneath the Thames. Today technical advance has made the means of tunnelling more exacting.

The second Severn tunnel, which crosses below the present bridge, is the CEBG power-cable link. My firm acted as the consulting engineers responsible for the project and I can assure Dr Kellaway that one of the most comprehensive geotechnical investigations of its kind took place. An extract from my paper, read to the Institution of Civil Engineers in 1973, stated: "In that the tunnelling works were considered to be a difficult task from the inception of the project it is considered that, in the context of the exploratory data, the correct decisions on choice of parameters were taken. Further, it is considered the methods of attack (construction) employed resulted in completion of the tunnel successfully with regard to the important aspect of safety."

To say, as does Mr Cottrell, that "The history of true tunnelling in the Severn grounds is not a happy one" is untenable. Further, to place the problems encountered in the construction of the CEBG tunnel in the same category as those met in the earlier tunnel is totally incorrect. A third Severn tunnel is perfectly feasible. Yours faithfully, C. K. HASWELL, Charles Haswell and Partners, Consulting Engineers, 99 Great Russell Street, WC1, November 28.

### Credit where it's due

From the Secretary of the Association of Consulting Engineers  
Sir, Your front page report (November 25) about UK export performance is as cogent as ever. But is it not time that you altered your conventional examples for "invisibles"? British consulting engineers have recently been credited with invisible earnings at the rate of some £565m per year, an average of £47m per month. That the UK had a net invisible surplus of £160m in October must be due in considerable part to the contribution of consulting engineers. Do we not deserve an occasional mention? Yours faithfully, P. J. M. PELLEREAU, Secretary, The Association of Consulting Engineers, Alliance House, 12 Caxton Street, SW1, November 28.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### US policy in Central America

From the US Representative to the Organization of American States  
Sir, I would like to respond to a letter that appeared in your paper on November 30 concerning the "growing threat in Central America". My Government welcomes positive European engagement in the search for solutions to the region's problems. We would welcome as well an effort by Europeans to understand what we are trying to do and why. First, we are providing a great deal more economic than security assistance to the region and we have offered the nations of Central America and the Caribbean guaranteed duty-free access to our market through the President's Caribbean basin initiative. Second, we are encouraging all of the nations in the region to broaden democracy and respect for human rights which must be the keystones to social and regional peace. We have made clear that we are troubled by the closure of radio stations, disregard for religious freedom, continuing support for guerrilla subversion in neighboring countries, and the presence of some 11,000 security and other personnel from Cuba and the Soviet bloc.

Despite all of these negative developments and the unwise efforts we would welcome efforts by the Sandinista leaders to make good their promises to the OAS. To this end, I wish to reaffirm to your readers that the United States is working with the Contadora nations to help convert broad agreement on principle into reality. Sincerely, J. W. MIDDENDORF, US Representative to the Organization of American States, Department of State, Washington, DC, USA, December 1.

### Prosecution by stores

From Ms Vivien Stern  
Sir, Baroness Phillips suggests (November 24) that the Recorder's comments in the recent case where a 77-year-old woman was prosecuted for shoplifting have encouraged the notion that stores like Woolworth's do not deserve the protection of the law against theft of their goods. This is simply nonsense. Stores, like anyone else, have the right to legal protection against theft, but shoplifting ranges from those involving organized gangs of shoplifters to cases of muddled shoppers, often elderly, who remove goods without a clear intention to steal. If those in the latter category are to be spared the stigma of a prosecution and court appearance for a crime they have not committed an attempt must be made to distinguish them from deliberate shoplifters. Even where the theft is deliberate in some cases a police caution, official or informal - may be all that

is needed, particularly where the offender is of previous good character and a store's layout designed to encourage impulse buying has encouraged impulse shoplifting. It is absurd to suggest that the best interests of criminal justice are served by prosecuting all alleged shoplifters regardless of age, physical or mental condition, and the existence of a real possibility that a mistake has been made; and stores should not expect the public purse to pay the cost of such prosecutions. A requirement that they pay costs and perhaps damages when such cases are lost, combined with trenchant public comments of the kind made by the Recorder in this case, might lead to their adopting more reasonable and sensitive policies. Yours faithfully, VIVIEN STERN, Director, National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders, 169 Clapham Road, SW9, November 28.

the heart and circulatory system 1,299 lives. Smoking is certainly the major cause of premature death in Britain today, but road accidents come a very close second. Yours sincerely, TREVOR SMITH, 97 Grieve Street, Dunfermline, November 25.

### Fatal statistics

From Dr Trevor Smith  
Sir, In stating in your editorial today (November 25) that smoking kills 40 times as many men as road accidents you greatly underestimate the significance of road accidents as a cause of premature death. If all of the people killed or seriously injured on British roads during the 1970s were laid end to end they would stretch from London to Edinburgh and back again. In addition, for every serious injury there were three or four minor injuries. In 1981, 5,840 people were killed, over 77,000 seriously injured, while 236,000 received minor injuries. Horrified as these figures are they still fail to reveal the true impact of road accidents as a cause of death. To appreciate this fully we must consider not simply the number of people killed, but the age at which they die. If we assume a life expectancy of 75 years and compare the number of years of life expectancy lost from the various causes then a more realistic picture emerges. In a single year, lung cancer claimed 38,300 lives, five times as many as the 6,832 lost in road accidents. It would appear at first sight therefore that lung cancer is by far the greater problem, but in terms of loss of life expectancy there is not a great deal to choose between the two - lung cancer deprived the population of 312,000 years of life expectancy, road accidents 255,000 years.

### Nuclear metaphor

From the Right Reverend Trevor Huddleston, CR  
Sir, The Minister of Defence is quoted today (feature, December 2) as saying: "... the seamless robe of deterrence exists. Whatever the force of Mr Heseltine's argument for the use of nuclear weapons in the name of peace, he might at least respect the susceptibilities of Christians in his use of metaphor. For us there is only one 'seamless robe' of significance. It was that one taken from the crucified Christ by the soldiers with the words, 'Let us not tear it but cast lots for it to see whose it shall be.' It is hard to think of a more blasphemous comparison than that between the seamless robe of Christ at the moment of his supreme self-giving for the salvation of mankind and the horror of cruise and Pershing and all the other weapons of our day. If the minister desires an appropriate metaphor I suggest he uses that phrase from St Mark's gospel: 'The abomination of desolation standing where it ought not.' Yours faithfully, TREVOR HUDDLESTON, House of the Resurrection, Mirfield, West Yorkshire.

### Way of the Cross

From the Reverend G. Thompson Brake  
Sir, It seems to suit some churchmen to resurrect the dichotomy between "personal" and "public" Christianity. In particular there is a disposition to associate "individual" or "personal" faith with a Tory philosophy of individual enterprise and achievement and then conclude that only a radical social religion has true validity. One result of this is the adoption of political socialism and the attachment of "radical" insights of the faith to give it a quasi-theological content. This the dichotomy is perpetuated, not by those whose emphasis is on personal faith, but by those who are left-handed. The Methodist Church, in which I am a minister, is widely acknowledged for its concern with social issues. Its founder, John Wesley, said: "Christianity is essentially a social religion and to turn it into a solitary one is to destroy it." That's a useful text for the critics of your leading article to latch on to. However, John Wesley's social

### Hope for young unemployed

From Mr Ray Hurst  
Sir, Although Francis Pym (feature, December 1) is justified in referring to the "economically wasteful" and "humanly damaging" effects of unemployment, it is the "socially divisive" aspects of the problem which he emphasized which must be of the greatest concern. Unemployed young people in particular, especially those experiencing long-term unemployment, react to their despairing situation by becoming apathetic and complacent and allowing themselves to drift into a sense of total hopelessness. This is not generally reflected by spontaneous and aggressive anti-social behaviour on the streets although it is important not to ignore the rise in the number of burglaries and the relatively large number of those aged under 24 among those whose crime is detected.

Although the new Youth Training Scheme has been generally welcomed by those involved in assisting unemployed young people, the fact should not be ignored that there are currently over 400,000 unemployed teenagers aged 18/19 years who are not eligible for entry to the scheme. Also, the published unemployment statistics do not divulge the total number of those waiting to enter their first real job. If those in Government special schemes are included, the numbers currently in this category must be about 750,000, at least.

Society still attaches a stigma to long-term unemployment. In the eyes of too many employers the longer a person is unemployed the more unemployable they become. The Government must make strenuous efforts to provide more paid employment for those young people still waiting for their first opportunity of employment. The recent reluctant decision of the Manpower Services Commission, because of financial constraints, to curtail recruitment to the Community Programme, a much-needed scheme for the long-term unemployed, is to be deplored. The allocation of more resources to schemes of this kind should not be based solely on grounds of compassion but because it would be investment in sound common sense, considering the alternatives. Yours faithfully, RAY HURST, Honorary Secretary, The Institute of Careers Officers, Careers Office, Fry Street, Middlesbrough, Cleveland, December 6.

### Restriction on parole

From Sir David Davenport-Handley  
Sir, As an admirer of the work of Dr Julian Candy I was sad to see that he had found it necessary to resign from the Parole Board, of which I am a member. He says in his letter to you of November 22 that his views are shared "in whole or in part by very many of his colleagues". I am not one of them. I strongly believe that the Home Secretary of the day had the right to change the parole restrictions. He is exercising a statutory discretion and if it is a political decision that is also his right, and indeed duty, reflecting as it does the clear mandate received in June to provide greater protection for the public. Of course, one would expect all cases to be referred to the board, as in the past, and not, as suggested by Lord Hunt in his letter (November 30) only those selected by the Home Office. Yours faithfully, DAVID DAVENPORT-HANDLEY, Clapham Hall, Oakham, Rutland.

### Winged chariot

From Dr W. I. Pumphrey  
Sir, I would like to thank your many correspondents for their replies to my letter (November 12) on minimum time intervals and for their wide-ranging observation of areas where there may be intervals even smaller than I had envisaged. I was especially interested in the negative time concept proposed by Mr Christopher Fagg (November 17) since the possible existence of such time intervals had escaped my notice. He is entirely correct of course. They do exist and I now realize that he has formalized a saying of my mother that "someone had picked her up before she had fallen down", although she was referring not to buses moving slightly faster than the speed of thought but to our local grocer, who invariably wrote to her about the state of her account when she was still debating the size of her next order. It seems to me entirely appropriate to call the basic unit of time a "Hume", as proposed by Mr Alpin (November 21) since it is clear that a "Hume" can be negative as well as positive. I only wish I had had a "Hume" by me in my university days, when I invariably had to echo the words of Hobart Brown, "Backwards turn backward, O time in your flight and tell me just one thing I studied last night!" Yours faithfully, W. I. PUMPHREY, 28 Fitzwilliam House, The Little Green, Richmond, Surrey, December 1.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE December 7: The Right Hon Margaret Thatcher, MP (Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury) had an audience of The Queen this evening.

Luncheons

At the President of the Law Society, Mr Christopher Hewitson, was host at a luncheon at 60 Carey Street, yesterday.

National Maritime Museum The Hon Anthony Cayzer, Chairman of the Trustees of the National Maritime Museum, was host at the annual luncheon for the Friends of the Museum at the museum yesterday.

Reception The Diplomatic Service Wives Association and Diplomatic Neighbours Association were the guests at a reception for the ladies of the Diplomatic Corps at Lancaster House yesterday.

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at the Dominion Theatre, London, W1 Mrs George West, Major David Bromhead and Mr Victor Chapman were in attendance.

The Princess of Wales, who is visiting the Queen Elizabeth II Silver Jubilee Activities Centre, Bursledon, Hampshire.

Her Royal Highness, attended by Miss Anne Beckwith-Smith and Lieutenant-Commander Peter Eberle, RN, travelled in an aircraft of the Queen's Flight.

KENSINGTON PALACE December 7: The Duke of Gloucester, as President, this afternoon attended the Annual General Meeting of the Royal Smithfield Club at Earls Court Exhibition Centre, London.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Simon Bland was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE ST JAMES'S PALACE December 7: The Duke of Kent, as President of the Football Association, today attended the 100th Anniversary Football Match between the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge at Wembley Stadium.

Captain Stewart was in attendance.

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Mr Eric Price Holmes will be held at St Margaret's, Westminster, at noon today.

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Mr Peter Arne will be held at St Paul's, Covent Garden, at noon today.

Birthdays today Mr Samany Davis, 58; Lord Diplock, 76; Mr Lucian Freud, CH, 61; Mr James Galloway, 44; Mr Maurice Green, 77; Lord Prys Davies, 60; Sir Arthur Rymill, 76; Mr Alan Stewart, 66; Sir John Somers, 92; Mr Michael Unger, 40; Sir William Wood, 67.

Latest wills Mr Frank Henry Biddle, of Epping, Essex, left an estate valued at £1,018,025 net.

Fortcomings Mr J. Palmer and Lady Sylvia Elliot. The engagement is announced between Nicholas, younger son of Dr and Mrs James Mann, of Dulwich, and Katharine, younger daughter of the late Mr David Prys Jones and Mrs Prys Jones, of Crofton.

Mr G. N. Mack and Miss C. M. Bruce. The engagement is announced between Gregory, youngest son of Mr Bernard Mack and the late Iris Mack, and Candida, younger daughter of Dr and Mrs Arnold Bruce.

Mr A. Spalms and Miss J. Smith. The engagement is announced between Anastasia, younger son of Mr and Mrs I. Spalms, of Kyparissia, Greece, and Mrs J. M. Williams, of Budock, Cornwall, and Judy, daughter of Mr and Mrs H. Rockwell, of Finner, Middlesex.

Mr M. A. H. Stimpff and Miss C. D. E. Wethered. The engagement is announced between Mark Andrew Haig, elder son of Mr and Mrs Frederick Stimpff, of Wilmshurst, Cheshire, and Jennifer Doreen Elizabeth, daughter of Mr and Mrs Anthony Wethered, of Northdon Common, Oxfordshire.

Mr M. Williams and Miss J. Rockwell. The engagement is announced between Mark, son of Mr and Mrs J. M. Williams, of Budock, Cornwall, and Judy, daughter of Mr and Mrs H. Rockwell, of Finner, Middlesex.

Mr R. M. Kemp and Miss M. E. Aldhous. The engagement is announced between Richard Mark, only son of Mr and Mrs L. Kemp, of Dulwich, London, and Margaret Elizabeth, second daughter of Mr and Mrs J. R. Aldhous, of Bath.

Mr S. Kenney and Miss R. A. McClain. The engagement is announced between Scott, son of Mr and Mrs D. Kenney, of Atlanta, Georgia, and Rebecca, daughter of the late Mr M. and Mrs McClain, of Winnetka, Illinois.

Mr N. S. Mann and Miss K. B. Jones. The engagement is announced between Nicholas, younger son of Dr and Mrs James Mann, of Dulwich, and Katharine, younger daughter of the late Mr David Prys Jones and Mrs Prys Jones, of Crofton.

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Say cheese: Mr Neville Briggshaw, aged 92, an In-pensioner at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, cutting the first of a selection of cheeses presented to the hospital by the English Country Cheese Council yesterday.

Church news Appointments The Bishop of Portsmouth, the Rt Rev Ronald Gordon, to be chief of staff to the Archbishop of Canterbury at Lambeth Palace, from next day, in succession to the Right Rev Ross Hook.

The Rev J. Adams, Rector of St Andrew's, London, to be also Rector of St Andrew's, London, from next day, in succession to the Right Rev Ross Hook.

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OBITUARY

MURIEL ST CLARE BYRNE Editor of 'The Lisle Letters'

Miss Muriel St Clare Byrne, OBE, FSA, who died on December 2 at the age of 89, was a writer and, for over 30 years, lecturer at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art as well as being an extra-mural university lecturer.

But what was to become the central preoccupation of her life gripped her from 1932 when she read her first Lisle letter among the 18 volumes of 'State Papers 3' at the Public Records Office, where she had been researching for her Henry VIII letters.

As she was to say in later years, she arranged the rest of her life round the task of bringing the letters, a few of which had been published in Victorian times, to the light of day as a substantial collection.

At first she had CUP in mind as a publisher but with slow progress only, being made, an autobiography 'Common or Garden' which she had published with Faber, turned her thoughts towards that firm, where T. S. Eliot, then a director, encouraged her. In the upshot the task proved too gigantic even for his and Faber's enthusiasms and finally her manuscript was flown across the Atlantic where it was eventually published by the Chicago Press.

She also wrote many popular works on historical and literary subjects and her 'Elizabethan Life in Town and Country' (1925) went through eight editions and was widely translated. 'The Elizabethan Zoo' (1926) and 'The Lisle Letters' (1932) were also popular.

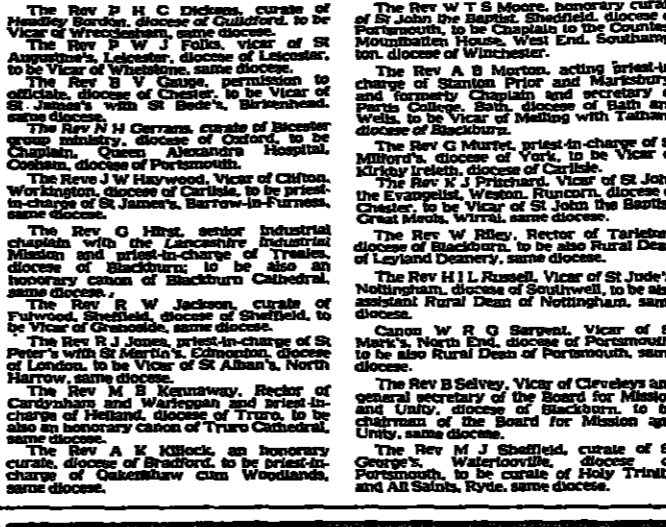
MR DIGBY MORTON Digby Morton, who died in London on December 5 at the age of 77, was a leading fashion designer who made his mark in the 1930s with his traditionally tailored clothes, and who continued to be influential during and after the Second World War.

He was a designer who profited from austerity. His lean, economic tweed suits were surviving symbols of elegance and style in the London of the Blitz. A famous Cecil Beaton photograph of 1941 showed the essential Digby Morton suit against the bombed ruins of the Temple.

DR JAMES AITKEN Dr James Macrae Aitken, who died in Cheltenham on December 3, was one of the most talented chess amateurs whom Scotland ever produced.

MLLE LUCIENNE BOYER Lucienne Boyer, the French cabaret singer who became a household name to a generation of devotees through the recording of her song 'Parlez-moi d'amour', died in Paris on December 6. She was 80.

University news Loughborough Honorary degrees are to be conferred upon the following next week: Sir Edward Parnell, Vice-Chancellor, Loughborough University; Sir Alan Turing, Loughborough University.



John Copley's 'Portrait of Mrs Thomas Gage'

Masterpiece to be sold by tender

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent Agnew's, the Bond Street dealers, are experimenting with a new way of selling a masterpiece by inviting interested museums and collectors to tender for John Singleton Copley's 'Portrait of Mrs Thomas Gage'.

It is being insured for £1m and, in the present buoyant market for American art, could eventually sell for several million pounds.

Science report Space shuttle tests may invalidate ear theory A Nobel prize-winning theory about the physiology of the inner ear was shaken on Tuesday by a test conducted by scientists aboard the space shuttle Columbia. The discovery about the inner ear study was a sidelight to research into the broader issue of the human body's adaptation to space.

Latest appointments Deputy Chief Constable of Greater Manchester to be Chief Constable of Devon and Cornwall, in succession to Mr David East.

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Cartier advertisement featuring a watch and the text 'le mut de Cartier boutique HARVEY NICHOLS, KNIGHTSBRIDGE, LONDON SW3. TELEPHONE 01-235 5000.'

Cognac Hine advertisement with the text 'THERE NEVER WAS A BETTER COGNAC' and a logo.

Arabic text: 'هكذا من الأصل' (Thus from the original).

THE ARTS

Ballet
Not trying too hard

London Contemporary Sadler's Wells

Royal Ballet Covent Garden

Mark Henderson's lighting is the element that most attracts attention to itself during Casse Trobar and stays most vividly in the mind afterwards.

choreography alike, as a modern celebration of the music and ideas of twelfth century troubadours; and the emphasis in that phrase has to be on contemporary, because the poems are interpreted through modern eyes, with little or no sense of their historical context.

year. His solo to "The Swan" is as remarkable as ever (when Peter Mumford's lighting will let you see it). The dancer becomes both bird and cellist, while maintaining a fascination flow of musically phrased movement.

John Percival



Nigel Douglas in From the House of the Dead

Opera
Restored to splendour

From the House of the Dead Dominion

Back for a week in the huge but serviceable barn of the Dominion Theatre, Welsh National Opera provide in their opening production an experience of such chilling power, of such musical and dramatic cogency, that one wonders what on earth London's opera companies are up to with their French Fripperies and star vehicles when there are still Janacek operas which are not in their repertoires.

down structure, hastily strapped onto the stage with barbed wire, like an abandoned archaeological dig, to the glimmer of freedom beyond).
Freedom, as the relentless tread of the prisoners passed the closing bars of David Pountney's production emphasises, is hard to see in this hopeless place.

Michinson hammers over the stage with authority; Robert Carpenter Turner as the noble Petrovich is more reserved: we only glimpse his brutal treatment in the bowels of this microcosm of hell.
Alongside the stories are the Easter Day plays, crudely staged on the raise platform which serves Pountney for the assembly of the officers and (his one major gloss on the text) the quasi-Last Supper of the visitors.

Nicholas Kenyon

Television
Misty intimacy

Those who send out stage classics through the small screen bear a big responsibility: they have it in their power either to lure new audiences into the theatre, or to drive them even further away.

with tympani for the habanera; the final scene, with the lovers kneeling side by side to face their fate and the fatal blow seeming to descend from behind them both, suggests divine retribution rather than mere human jealousy.

Norman Lewis is doing well by the publishing boom in travellers' tales today. Golden Earth, his account of a journey to Burma in 1950 (which prompted Cyril Connolly to say: "Mr Lewis can make even a lorry interesting") is being reissued.

Michael Church

Interview
Stories of survival



Norman Lewis at home: "Endless picturesque stories run through my mind"

The fresh interest in past journeys has inspired him to look back through old notebooks full of "cynical scribbles indecipherable to anyone but me". Two days before I went to see him, he had put the finishing touches to a book about the three seasons he spent as a fisherman in Spain immediately after the war.

Towards the end of the 1930s Lewis found himself in Cuba. By now he was married, to a Sicilian girl fluent in five languages, from whom he picked up good Spanish and Italian, so that when war broke out someone suggested to him that he volunteer for the Intelligence Corps. (He was never to live with his wife again, but her Sicilian associations were later to provide him with material and impetus for two successful books on the Italian mafia, though he speaks of them extremely cautiously.)

After the Salerno landings I was posted to Naples. We had to cope with a city of a million people devastated by warfare. It was a concentrated and kaleidoscopic experience. I must have covered hundreds of notebooks. Why these did not seem to him at the time the subject matter for a book was, Lewis explains, that he had no belief "in any future existence. I thought the war would go on for ever."

Dear Girl Old Red Lion

This Women's Theatre Group production has been assembled from the private writings of four London friends, Ruth Slate and her companions Françoise, Minna and Eva, have no claim on history beyond the fact that, for a quarter of a century, they kept up a correspondence and personal diaries which illuminate the growth of the women's movement outside the world of spotlight oratory and public gesture.

make something worthwhile of their lives. Ruth speaks for them all when she writes "I must find my centre before I experiment".
Finding the centre involved sloughing off their sexual and religious indoctrination, and learning to look at the surrounding world as a man-made artefact. Two of them make the orthodox escape from domestic service by learning to wield a typewriter. Françoise makes a stab at independence through freelance journalism.

Libby Mason and Tiel Thompson's script succeeds in combining chronology with a thematic organization. The show falls into smoothly linked sessions on family life, work, menfolk, live between women, and other subjects marking their progressive emancipation from the past.

Irving Wardle

LSO/Abbado Barbican Hall

One goes dreary years without ever hearing a note of Webern in the concert hall, now all of a sudden, to mark his centenary, the whole output is being played in just over a week at the Barbican. On Tuesday night the first concert in this Olivetti Festival was encouragingly attended and hugely successful. It was unfortunate only that little of the success was Webern's.

rather to see it as Webern's fault that he withdrew so much from the tumults where Berg and Mahler thrived, and where Mr Abbado and his players had them thriving on Tuesday.
The Berg performance was almost a miracle, and at last here was a work that benefited from the spotlighting of the Barbican's acoustics. At the most crowded passages every strand was clear, but that would have been pointless, as it was in the Webern, without the orchestra's wholesale reconstruction of Berg's excess. The middle movement, a waltz of loose criticism as seedy as it is seductive, was full of the most gorgeous melody, and the final march sustained its crescendo of overbearing triumph right to the last bar, where trumpets and high woodwind shout Berg's musical initial only to have it stifled.

course, for a conductor merely to demonstrate involvement with the music, and though the orchestra's playing occasionally matched its master's feverish passions, the sounds it made were much more often simply ragged.
It probably did not help that most of the music was on the dark side. Prokofiev's Sixth Symphony, a work too seldom heard, brims on the tragedy of the last war for much of its course. After the agonizingly intense middle movement the finale promises briefly to lighten the atmosphere. But even here under the brilliant surface, it is too overpowering when for a Shostakovich-like irony to intrude. One wished only that this performance could have adequately reflected these depths.

Paul Griffiths LPO/Rostropovich Festival Hall

However, I am in no mood to carp about the outstanding accounts of Mahler's first symphony and, even more so, Berg's three pieces that followed the Webern. The temptation is

Mstislav Rostropovich's concert with the London Philharmonic Orchestra was undeniably exciting to watch. His levish balletic exuberance saw to that. But it is not enough, of

Previously we heard a rather dour reading of Ravel's orchestration of Mussorgsky's Pictures at an Exhibition. There were some notable solos, from Paul Lawrence (tuba), Stephen Trier (saxophone) and especially Lawrence Evans (trumpet); it was good to hear the tuba played with such accuracy and subtlety, too. But the more jovial pictures sounded laboured, while "The Old Castle" lacked any sense of mystery and the majesty of "The Great Gate of Kiev" was but a hollow ceremony.

Stephen Pettitt

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Travel writing is only one fragment, albeit the most enjoyable one, of Lewis's life. He is in the enviable position of being as much at home in fiction as in travelling and recording, with precise detail and a gentle, self-mocking humour, what he sees. Eleven of his 16 books are novels. "I like to exercise that part of my intellectual muscle acquired as a solitary only child, whose only means of survival was telling myself stories. Endless picturesque stories rush through my mind. I like to give them a whirl." Like his traveller's tales, their settings are exotic.

Lewis is a tall, angular man with a small moustache, round glasses and an exceedingly wary expression. His father was a chemist in Enfield, but he was brought up in Wales "by three insane aunts" after his grandfather had demanded that his Sicilian wife, now in Guatemala, that sparked off a change of direction towards Latin America.

Lewis is trying out an autobiography. He speaks of it with a sort of glee. "It is to be made up of essays on some seven or eight areas of my life. My childhood - can you imagine being the son of a spiritualist medium? And all those insane aunts? Then I'm going to have a go at marriage. But I worry about that. Then there's fame. That's my meeting with Hemingway in Cuba, just after he had won the Nobel Prize. Saddest man I ever met. Sated. Then there's war: what a choice I've got there."

Pop
Trapped in idolatry

If 1983 has marked the return of the teen idols, Duran Duran can take a dubious pride in having retained their scream-appeal title. The opening night of this tour confirmed their status as brand leaders in the pubescent and very noisy small girl market. But having aspired to this lofty height Duran Duran seem remarkably unaware of what to do with the power.

lowest common denominator. Granting the commercial aspects of Duran's success, the glossy good looks and obvious hooks, one would have expected them to attempt an entertainment that differed from the stock rock clichés. Far from it. Despite the modern connotations of their sound and the post-New Romantic imagery, Duran are quite happy wallowing in the old-fashioned routines.

thing I Should Know?" and "Planet Earth" but the constant hysteria of the audience did them no favour. The sound was homogenized and bland.
To their credit Duran are smart enough not to patronise the crowd in the way Wham! do; they do not prey on fey sexuality. Similarly, their commitment to pleasing the fans is genuine. They would argue that you cannot eat artistic integrity. What rankles finally is the perfunctory acceptance of what they do as an end in itself. I suspect Duran Duran would like to be taken seriously. Unfortunately the idolatry is nothing more than a comfortable trap.

Max Bell

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MARKET REPORT by Michael Clark

Hawker shares take off

ACCOUNT DAY: Dealings began, Nov 28. Dealings end, Dec 9. Contango Day, Dec 12. Settlement Day, Dec 15.

Shares of Hawker Siddeley staged their own vertical take-off yesterday climbing 16p to 362p as one broker prepared to make a major upgrading of the company's prospects.

The broker, W Greenwall, hopes to complete a study of the company shortly, and is confident that investors will be on a winner. It believes Britain's healthier climate bodes well for Hawker. Growing export markets and a heavy investment programme in North America should soon be filtering through to profits.

Market analysts are looking for pretax profits of between £120m and £125m for the year against £116.2m last time. However, some brokers are looking for a figure of nearer £133m and this is certain to start another round of upgrading among other market experts.

Meanwhile, the rest of the equity market continued to maintain its record breaking run, although this would not have been evident from the turnover level. The FT Index closed at its high for the day 5.4 up at 753.6, helped by a firmer appearance on Wall Street and

renewed activity among blue chips. On the gilt edged market, prices rose by up to 50p supported by Tuesday's better than expected bank lending figures. But on the foreign exchange sterling dropped to its lowest level ever, falling 55 points to \$1.4355.

It looks as though the worst may be over at Steeley, currently the subject of a bid from Haworth Ceramic. Yesterday the shares rose 9p to 218p as broker Springear Kemp Gee continued to recommend the shares, a cut in the dividend last year. At the halfway stage this year Steeley produced profits of £10.5m and Springear is looking for a similar performance in the second.

Dealers have become increasingly confident of the economic outlook and this may be the reason why the Government

broker has decided to release an extra £500m of existing stock. They are £500m of Exchange 10 1/2 per cent 1995 and £200m of Exchange 10 1/2 per cent 1994.

Among leaders, Bewster slipped 1p to 240p after scaling new heights on Monday on hopes that terms for the sale of its Corner Brook milling interest might be announced shortly. The shares have been active of late, sliding to below the 190p level only to recover this account on bid hopes.

Blue Circle fell 8p to 428p and Ragby Portland 5p to 99p, after news that the Cement Makers Federation council meeting had decided against the expected 5 per cent rise in cement prices.

Rugby was reckoned to have been pressing for a big rise in prices, but Blue Circle, which has been more affected by imported cement than other producers, wanted to see the

price freeze extended and its view prevailed. Great Universal Stores 'A' responded 9p to 655p ahead of figures later today, while the ordinary added 9p to 610p. Analysts are looking for pretax

profits of between £89m to £93m compared with £82.8m last year. There has again been US support for shares of BTR, 13p dearer at 412p. American investors reckon the shares should soon reflect bumper profits after this year's acquisition of Thomas Tilling in one

of the biggest takeover battles ever set on the London stock market.

Over on the Unlisted Securities Market, shares of Pericon made an encouraging start after a placing by the brokers Capel-Cure Myers and Albert E. Sharpe. The shares were placed at 140p and closed at 152p. Peascheild, a private company, has increased its stake in that old takeover favourite Highbate & Job. Earlier this week it bought a total of 137,000 shares amounting to 14.9 per cent of the equity. Shares of Highbate responded to the news with a 4p rise to 110p.

But Eastern Produce slipped 3p to 163p after Lawrie Group announced it had bought an extra 117,000 shares, taking its total holding to 1.79 million shares, or 17.12 per cent of the total.

Dalgety spurred 12p to 398p after a buy recommendation from broker Phillips & Drew who is impressed by the 9 per cent yield. Another big broker is also recommending the shares and says they made a good start in the first quarter and should be capable of at least £2.2m in the first six months.

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FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Faster world growth and a diminishing debt problem

A perceptible glow of optimism that the world may be over the hump of the debt crisis, apparent since this autumn, has been growing brighter as signs of economic recovery have multiplied.



Schmidt (left) and De Larosière: harsh words about US deficit

M. Jacques de Larosière, managing director of the International Monetary Fund, yesterday added his voice to the band of hope.

Each 1 per cent growth in the West over the next three years means \$35 billion (£24.2 billion) additional export earnings for the hard-pressed developing countries, equivalent to one-third of their total debt service payments for 1982.

The encouraging picture painted by M. de Larosière, which follows the recent analysis of Third World debts by Professor William Cline, of the Washing-

ton-based Institute for International Economics, is a less certain prospect than he makes it seem.

According to the IMF managing director, who had some harsh things to say about the US deficit, interest rates in the seven largest economies were more than 5 per cent above inflation, when the difference should be no more than 2 per cent.

Herr Helmut Schmidt, former West German Chancellor, went further when he said yesterday that the US deficit was the world's biggest economic problem.

In remarks reminiscent of Mr Edward Heath's call a couple of years ago for a "ring-fence" of capital controls round Europe, Herr Schmidt said European countries might be forced to impose capital controls to stop outflows to the US.

Slater ghost walks again

The move by Mr Gwyn Ward Thomas, the chairman of Trident Television, to stage a management buyout of three of its companies seems to have acted as an advertisement.

Yesterday, Trident announced it had sold Windsor Safari Park, scenery makers Watts & Cory and a company with rights over Trident films to the private concern Southbrook and City Holdings for £2.26m cash.

The cash pays for assets of £1,804,000 and profits before tax for the year to the end of last September of £571,000. It also takes into account corporation tax liabilities of £435,000.

Controlling Southbrook are Mr Derek Dawson and Mr Alan Joelson. Mr Dawson was a managing director of Hemdale, a company started by Mr John Daley and Mr David Hemmings in the late 1960s.

Five years later it was bid for by Equity Enterprises, where Mr David Frost was deputy chairman, and the backing force was the former financial giant Slater, Walker, with almost a third of the shares.

But in the mid-1970s Mr Dawson was involved in buying back Hemdale, whose name was changed to Southbrook in January 1982.

The success of Southbrook, which is involved in theme parks in Spain and has interests in films, is a setback for Mr Ward Thomas. He returns from abroad today to face the matter of compensation for relinquishing his chairman's seat to Lord Hanson at the annual meeting next February.

He is still likely to be chairman when the Monopolies and Mergers Commission finally publishes its report into Pleasurama's £56m takeover bid for Trident.

Sterling knocked to lowest by oil price uncertainty

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

Uncertainty over the future of oil prices knocked sterling to its lowest level against the dollar, touching \$1.4330 at one stage in New York.

The pound followed news that the Nigerian senate had voted to pull out of the Organization of Oil Exporting Countries if its oil production quota was not raised in the talks being held in Geneva.

The sudden fall in sterling was the most unexpected because it came after a buoyant afternoon performance in the wake of balance of payments figures showing a £1,200m surplus on current account in the first three quarters of this year, twice the level estimated.

The revision is entirely accounted for by higher invisible earnings, including interest, profit and dividends remitted from overseas, and transfer payments helped by an improvement in the Government's balance with the EEC.

The balance of payments figures released yesterday by the Central Statistical Office also show that portfolio investment overseas totalled £5,050m in the first three quarters this year, up from £4,470m in the same period a year ago.

The pound's late weakness was amplified by more technical factors. Traders wanting to buy marks decided to sell sterling rather than dollars, because the US currency is expected to remain strong.

The pound ended the day lower against all currencies though the final calculation of its effective index, made earlier by the Bank of England, showed a 0.1 improvement to 82.9.

The dollar made widespread though modest gains against most currencies, its trade-weighted index rising 0.3 to 129.6.

Though there is general agreement that the dollar is overvalued by as much as a fifth on fundamental economic grounds, in terms of relative inflation and competitiveness, no one dares predict when it will fall.

The booming economy, and high US interest rates under-

ginned by the huge federal budget deficit, coupled with international political tensions, continue to make the dollar an overwhelming attraction for short-term funds.

The pound's weakness against the dollar also rules out a cut in British interest rates. The situation gives Britain the worst of all worlds: Sterling's weakness against the dollar raises inflationary pressures, since many imported basic materials are priced in dollars.

But it remains at high levels against European currencies and the yen, which leaves British goods uncompetitive in their most important export markets.

The Government will therefore be reluctant to raise interest rates as this could push up sterling against these currencies, risking damage to the recovery.

Mr Jacob Rothschild's RIT and Northern investment trust group yesterday announced it owns 7.7 per cent of the stockholders Smith Brothers.

Independent share purchases by the New York company L F Rothschild Unterberg Towbin, of which RIT owns 50 per cent, had taken the stake above the 5 per cent level required to be declared under British company law.

Mr Tony Lewis, Smith's chairman, said last night: "RIT have had just under 5 per cent of us for some time. This announcement does not particularly surprise me. I don't think it's a threat of a takeover. It may be, I just don't know."

Smith's price has soared this year from 38p to last night's 83p, up 2p on the day. Behind the price surge was a belief that changes in the Stock Exchange rules on shareholding by outsiders would mean strategic stakes being taken in both Smith and Akroyd & Smithers.

Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, welcomed the Treasury's paper as a serious response to a challenging issue, and said he hoped the further joint exercises would lead "to real action".

Mr Terence Beckett, director general of the CBI, said it was one of the most constructive meetings for many years, at which a lot of common ground had been established.

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Lord Hanson is on course for another set of record profits this year on the back of a substantial recovery in the US economy.

The good prospects follow record results for 1982-83 which surpassed market expectations and pushed the share price to a record 252p.

The industrial conglomerate, built up by Lord Hanson through acquisition and now including Ever Ready and the Alders (formerly UDS) retail business, increased profits from £60.4m to £91.1m.

The good results stemmed particularly from the improving performance of Hanson's UK and European companies like Ever Ready and Butterley, the brick maker, and a substantial fall in central costs.

The balance sheet is strong with a large cash element of £408m, helped by sales of UDS assets which totalled £160m and good cash generation from the rest of the business. Alders contributed £6.7m on sales of

only will not be "completely painless".

The TUC also submitted a paper to the council meeting warning that despite some increases in service jobs the "real" rate of unemployment could still rise to more than 5 million by the end of the 1980s.

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Index rise continues

The stock market continued to shrug off its worries about the pound yesterday as it again scaled new heights, with the FT index closing 5.4 up at 753.6.

Yesterday's better-than-expected bank lending figures also helped sentiment and the Bank of England took the opportunity to dip into the gilt market to help finance government expenditure.

Yesterday, it announced an additional £500m of stock - £300m of Exchange, 10% per cent, 1995 and £200m of Exchange, 10% per cent, 1994. Dealings are expected to start tomorrow.

But it remains at high levels against European currencies and the yen, which leaves British goods uncompetitive in their most important export markets.

The Government will therefore be reluctant to raise interest rates as this could push up sterling against these currencies, risking damage to the recovery.

Mr Jacob Rothschild's RIT and Northern investment trust group yesterday announced it owns 7.7 per cent of the stockholders Smith Brothers.

Independent share purchases by the New York company L F Rothschild Unterberg Towbin, of which RIT owns 50 per cent, had taken the stake above the 5 per cent level required to be declared under British company law.

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Nigerians in vote to quit Opec

By David Young and Michael Priest

The Nigerian senate was yesterday reported to have voted to leave the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, as in Geneva, Opec ministers struggled to present a united front.

Saudi Arabia has argued at the Geneva meeting for pegging the price of its marker crude, the cornerstone of Opec's price structure, at \$29 a barrel until the end of next year. The price was out from \$34 a barrel in March.

The motion to the Nigerian senate proposing that the count should withdraw from Opec was sponsored by Senator David Dafinone, a member of President Shehu Shagari's National Party. But the vote is not binding on the government.

The proposal was part of a wider motion which suggested five ways of surmounting Nigeria's economic crisis. Senator Dafinone argued that the country's Opec quota of 1.3 million barrels a day was not enough to produce the revenue needed to cover Nigeria's short-term debts. He advocated raising output to 2 million barrels a day.

But in Geneva, Mr Yaiyay Dikko, the Nigerian oil minister, said he knew nothing about the senate's vote. Asked about the reports, he said: "Oh really? I didn't know that. Tell me more." The Nigerian delegation was present when ministers resumed their discussions last night.

As the negotiations were again joined, Shaikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, the Saudi Arabian petroleum minister, insisted that oil prices would be frozen for at least another 12 months. He said: "I assure you it will be like this because we will never in Saudi Arabia increase our price."

Shaikh Yamani went on: "Even if you have the majority in Opec to increase it, which is a hypothetical question, we are not going to increase our prices."

But other members are pressing for higher prices and larger quotas. Mr Muhammad Ghannem, the Iranian oil minister, said yesterday morning that his government wanted a \$5 increase in the market price.

Iran and Iraq, who have been at war for three years, each argued that because of economic difficulties, it should be the first member to benefit from any increase in the demand for oil. The two Gulf producers, whose output has suffered from the fighting, accused Saudi Arabia of abusing its position as Opec's "swing" producer, by exceeding its quota.

NEDC agrees more joint job studies

By Jonathan Davis, Financial Correspondent

The Government, CBI and TUC have agreed to take part in further joint studies of Britain's employment prospects in what was being cautiously hailed last night as an encouraging step towards a new era of tripartite conciliation on the economy.

The decision to press ahead with the joint studies was taken at yesterday's meeting of the National Economic Development Council where the Treasury produced its long-awaited paper on the prospects for new jobs.

The 30-page study, which was undertaken on the initiative by Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, earlier this summer, makes it clear that the Government is expecting most new jobs to come from the service industries, with little or no further growth in manufacturing industry jobs.

It says that these new jobs will only materialize if employers, employees and unions are prepared to become more flexible in their approach to work, with more frequent job changes, more flexible hours, more part-time work, and greater job mobility. It gives a warning that this process of structural change in the econ-

omy will not be "completely painless".

The TUC also submitted a paper to the council meeting warning that despite some increases in service jobs the "real" rate of unemployment could still rise to more than 5 million by the end of the 1980s.

The ensuing debate was described by all the participants as one of the most constructive and encouraging to have been held at the council since Mrs Thatcher came to power in 1979.

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RIT takes 7% stake in jobbers

By Philip Robinson

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Mr Tony Lewis, Smith's chairman, said last night: "RIT have had just under 5 per cent of us for some time. This announcement does not particularly surprise me. I don't think it's a threat of a takeover. It may be, I just don't know."

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# Matthew Hall

International Design and Engineering Contractors

## Interim Report

Group results for the nine months to 30 September 1983

|   | 9 months to<br>30 Sept 83 | 30 Sept 82 | Year to<br>31 Dec 82 |
|---|---------------------------|------------|----------------------|
| Profit on trading                       | 5,000                     | 5,000      | 5,000                |
| Oil, gas, chemical and mining           | 2,429                     | 3,136      | 3,718                |
| Mechanical and electrical               | 3,881                     | 2,103      | 3,337                |
| Interest receivable (net)               | 6,301                     | 5,239      | 7,055                |
| Profit before taxation                  | 9,678                     | 8,428      | 11,635               |
| Taxation charge for the period (note 2) | (5,707)                   | (3,525)    | (3,981)              |
| Profit after taxation                   | 3,971                     | 4,903      | 7,654                |
| Outside shareholders' interests         | (1)                       | (1)        | (1)                  |
| Profit attributable to shareholders     | 3,970                     | 4,902      | 7,653                |
| Ordinary dividends                      | 436                       | 408        | 2,098                |
| Earnings per share after taxation       | 11.62p                    | 14.34p     | 22.39p               |

Notes:  
1. The nine months results for both years are unaudited. The results for the year 1982 shown above are an abridged version of the audited accounts of that year which have been delivered to the Registrar of Companies. The Report of the Auditors was unqualified.  
2. Taxation for the nine months and year 1982 was reduced by £400,000 and £579,000 respectively by credits tax advance corporation tax previously written off.

## Salient Points from the Interim Report to Shareholders

- Group pre-tax profit for the nine months up from £8.428m to £9.678m.
- Increased dividend of 1.275p (1982: 1.195p) per Ordinary share.
- Oil, gas, chemical and mining results affected by USA and South East Asia but UK, Australia and Brazil have all performed well.
- The mechanical and electrical sector has increased its share of Group trading profit due to higher work volumes and higher than usual incidence of contract completions.
- Present indications are that the full year pre-tax profit should amount to some £12.4m.

Matthew Hall PLC

Matthew Hall House, 101-108 Tottenham Court Road, London W1A 1BT  
Telephone: 01-636 3676. Telex: 22704

## Patrick Knight reports from Sao Paulo on the world's toughest debt problem

# Brazil cannot win the self-help battle on its own

With a modicum of luck, Brazil should not return to the top of the financial news pages for the next four months. Pressure will probably only start building up strongly again in March, when the country gets back to work after the Carnival is over.

Brazil's debt drama became acute more than a year ago, forcing bankers to spend last Christmas struggling with the first of a series of rescue packages.

Now the International Monetary Fund has finally agreed that the series of aims set for 1984 can be made to stick, which was not true of the three earlier attempts. As a result, the IMF has released more than \$1 billion (£689m) of frozen drawing rights, money which has already been used to pay back long overdue bridging loans to the Bank for International Settlements.

Encouraged by the thaw, most of Brazil's 830 creditor banks have moved funds from one side of their balance sheets to the other, releasing loans arranged at the turn of the year but frozen since May, when it became clear that Brazil was not going to meet targets initially agreed with the IMF. The first tranche of the latest \$6.5 billion (£4.5 billion) loan should also be released before the year's end.

It remains ominous that fewer than half of Brazil's creditor banks have agreed to join in with the latest loan. Most of the absentees are small fry, responsible for less than 10 per cent of the debt between them.

Brazil might even end the year with something in its reserves, rather than owing up to \$3 billion in unpaid interest, overdue bills and charges, as during the past few months.

But few expect the lull to last for more than four or five months. Then Brazil will be back, asking for more, much more.

A low estimate is \$5 billion. So how much longer will the drama last, and is the worst yet over?

This depends on two factors: one which Brazil can do something about, the other it cannot. It depends on how well the measures which have been taken so far, or are to be taken, will work out. But it also depends on how strong and sustained the international recovery, and consequently the growth of world trade, will prove to be, as well as on such variables as interest rates, the price of oil, and the weather.

The basic demand of the IMF has been that Brazil's public sector deficit should be brought under control, by curbing trends that led to inflation reaching the present 200 per cent a year level, one of the world's highest, and the worst yet in Brazil itself.

This year, subsidies on foodstuffs, cheap credit for farmers, and subsidies for oil have been eliminated, or sharply reduced. Almost all incomes have been cut, either through wage rises being set below the inflation rate, or through the mechanism of inflation itself, working to reduce disposable incomes, as prices rise ahead of incomes.

Tight controls on imports, down by more than \$2 billion, and a fifth in volume from last year, have forced industry to make do with higher priced local alternatives, cutting demand.

However, in an economy as highly indexed as Brazil's, such measures initially tend to boost inflation, rather than slow it. And that has happened this year, which is a shock for the IMF.

In addition, despite all the promises, little has been done to curb state sector spending. Capital spending is being halved over a two-year period.

But the Government has yet to summon up the courage to cut staff. Last year, an election period, those employed by the public sector grew by at least half a million. And although a few of those appointed in an attempt to prevent the Government party's electoral performance being worse than it was have been sacked, they have been replaced by new appointments made where the Opposition has taken control.

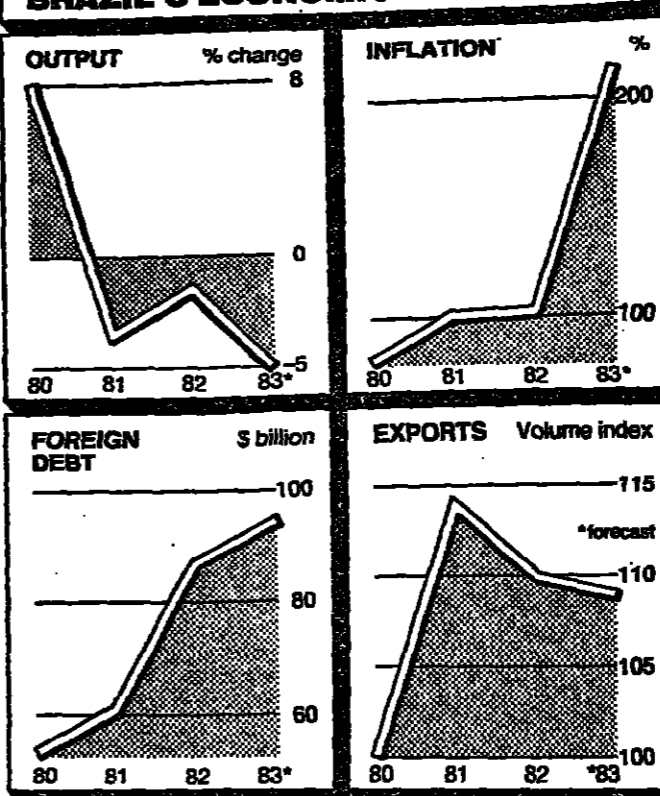
Despite civil construction falling by 18 per cent in a year, industrial output tumbling by nearly 10 per cent, and commerce generally being cut by 7 per cent, the tertiary sector, responsible for more than half of gross national product and largely formed by the public

### Little has been done to curb state spending

sector, has not shrunk at all this year. The financial impact has been made far worse by the yields of many taxes being reduced by more than a quarter.

It remains to be seen whether this will be tackled with

### BRAZIL'S ECONOMIC PROBLEMS



adequate will next year to achieve results. The Government seems to be relying on a debt burden which, despite the visible trade surplus being three times last year's, will rise by not less than 10 per cent this year. That is certainly below last year's horrific 14.6 per cent increase, but it is still becoming a heavier burden each year.

The key lies in export. The 23 per cent devaluation at the beginning of last year, along with continued multi-devalu-

ations, has kept Brazil's goods competitive in the US, and, to a slightly lesser degree, in Western Europe.

But this has not compensated for sharp falls in stagnant markets in virtually the whole of the rest of the world.

### The devaluation has kept Brazil's goods competitive

There have also been allegations that trade figures have been massaged, notably by recording exports almost as soon as firm orders are received, but only recording imports when the goods actually arrive in Brazil, a tactic which can only be used once.

Things could improve next year. Demand for some commodities, notably soy, is strong, due to the failure of the US crop while coffee and cocoa look promising. But demand for iron ore continues to shrink, despite the US recovery. Sugar, once one of Brazil's four leading export earners, remains very weak, due principally to the subsidy on beet given by the EEC.

Brazil's optimists hope that world trade will grow by between 8 and 10 per cent next year, permitting the country's exports to grow by 12 per cent as a result.

Last year, exports shrank to an all-time low of 6.5 per cent of gnp. They will be slightly more than that this year, but that is mainly because gnp itself has fallen. The impressive trade surplus of more than \$6 billion is almost entirely the result of cuts in imports; any export rises are due more to firmer prices, than extra volumes.

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The Government is aiming to push exports up to about 9 per cent of gnp which implies a sustained growth of 10 per cent or more each year.

That depends only partly on Brazil. It depends much more on the developed countries considering that growth is more important for the world, than finally defeating an inflation running now at the sort of levels which would cause a second Carnival in Brazil.

The low value of the cruzado enabled Brazil to make some spectacular gains this year, to compensate for declines in Third World market. Steel exports, for example, are running at double what they were last year, and still rising. The US, Japan and China being the main markets.

The first two countries have obsolete steel mills facing prohibitive capital costs for replacement. So Brazil's new mills, built with considerable sacrifice and representing a significant chunk of the debt, are able to compete.

But will this be permitted without provoking the sort of protectionist reaction, which will curb export growth in future, and provoke another financial crisis?

For Brazil to escape finally from the bankers' clutches will take time. Eight to 10 years on a steady course is what optimistic planners in Brasilia think. And that depends on a lot of things going right, and very few going wrong.

# The Institute of Bankers

## 1983 EXAMINATIONS

### PRIZES

#### BANKING, TRUSTEE AND TAXATION DIPLOMAS, CREDIT CARD CERTIFICATE AND OPTIONAL EXAMINATIONS\*

The following prizes have been awarded for 1983:

- BECKETT MEMORIAL PRIZE:** (Highest aggregate in Banking Diploma completed in six sittings within a period of three years) Carolle Higgins, National Westminster Bank, London E.C.2.
- JOHN CAULCUTT PRIZE:** (Highest aggregate in Trustee Diploma completed in six sittings within a period of three years) Philip Augustine Diaz, Public Trustee Office, London W.C.2.
- EDWARD JONES PRIZE:** (Highest aggregate in Investment and Practical Trust Administration on completion of the Trustee Diploma) Alison Kay Fletcher, National Westminster Bank, Hereford. Kevin John Tucker, National Westminster Bank, Liverpool.
- CWYTER PRIZE FOR MONETARY ECONOMICS:** Heather Joy Mitchell, Lloyds Bank, Weymouth.
- WHITEHEAD PRIZES:** LAW RELATING TO BANKING: Jenine Ruth Langrish, Lloyds Bank, London S.W.5.
- ACCOUNTANCY:** Donald John Mallett, National Westminster Bank, Epping.
- FINANCE OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE:** Barbara Janet Ganton, Barclays Bank, Norwich.

- F.C. CLEGG PRIZE FOR NATURES OF MANAGEMENT:** Angela Louise Galt, Buryville Lane, South Croydon, London E.C.2.
- FRANK STYLER PRIZE FOR INVESTMENT:** Mark Andrew Fisher, National Westminster Bank, Sheffield.
- LORNBARD ASSOCIATION PRIZES FOR FINANCE OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE:** Barbara Janet Ganton, Barclays Bank, Norwich. Simon James Smith, Lloyds Bank, Tetzahall, Wolverhampton.
- COUNCIL PRIZES:** LAW OF SUCCESSION: Glenn Nigel Martin, Barclays Bank, Richmond, Surrey.
- TRUST TAXATION:** Steven Chadwood, National Westminster Bank, Macclesfield.
- LAND LAW:** Valerie Hasei Tabor, National Westminster Bank, Great Hill, Ilford.
- TRUST ACCOUNTING:** David Ralph Harbage, Barclays Bank Trust Company, Sharnbury.
- LAW OF PERSONS:** Susan Diane Copell, Hill Street & Co. (Jersey), St. Helier.
- CREDIT CARD CERTIFICATE:** (Highest aggregate marks on completion) Pamela Jean Fairchild, Barclayscard, Northampton.
- FINANCE OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE:** Barbara Janet Ganton, Barclays Bank, Norwich.

\*Awarded on the combined results of the April and September examinations.

### TRUSTEE DIPLOMA

12 Candidates who completed in September, 1983

- BEA BROTHERS B. Birch, I. NOTTSCHILD (N.M.) & SONS M. A. Hill. ROYAL BANK OF CANADA (GRANVILLE ISLANDS) J. C. Teat. SOCIETE GENERALE BANQUE D'ALGERIE M. A. Durville. SOCIETE GENERALE BANQUE P. M. Schanda. STANDARD CHARTERED BANK R. Gannon-Jones; R. J. Sampson. TRUSTEE SAVINGS BANK OF EASTERN ENGLAND Regina Margaret Arden; R. T. Bickwood; S. N. Welch. TRUSTEE SAVINGS BANK OF WALES AND BORDER COUNTIES M. R. Burroughs; R. James; D. A. Kirby. TRUSTEE SAVINGS BANK OF NORTH WALES AND LINCOLN D. Shillito. TRUSTEE SAVINGS BANK SOUTH EAST S. P. Ager; D. M. Faisli; M. J. Levett; R. J. Wraight. UNION BANK OF NIGERIA S. O. Ojo. UNION BANK OF SWITZERLAND H. S. Terrington. UNITED COMMERCIAL BANK K. Rajan. WESTPAC BANKING CORPORATION A. D. Johnson. WILLIAMS & GILBY'S BANK H. A. C. Buckland, J. M. T. Mary Elizabeth Jane Chadwick; L. P. Cole; N. J. Forrester; Pamela Jane Helyar; M. Johnson; Christine Jones; P. J. T. Lewington; M. J. Rabone; M. A. Taylor. WING LUNG BANK Cheung Tai Ling. YORKSHIRE BANK P. Brazner; Susan Brookfield; Valerie Burton; P. G. Calvert; G. Dixon; Carolyn Hall; N. H. Jones; A. A. Reed; Stephanie Jayne Taylor; J. J. Wang; A. R. Wood. OTHERS: Y. A. Abidoye; S. A. Adedun; O. P. Adetunji; O. T. Adeyemi; Dorothy Odehinde Akinde; R. A. Adigun; M. E. Ales; J. O. Alesh; Chew Kean Krong; G. I. Chiozie; E. I. Emoriri; Y. O. Elekun; J. A. Jemiriyebi; W. Jof; I. A. J. Kasi; S. O. A. Lawal; H. Lee Sang Nam; C. A. Martinson; Janet Gladstone Ogunyomi; E. C. Ononwue; L. O. Oyedok; B. M. Scamp; B. S. Turay; Gillian Margaret Windsor.

- Holder of the Trustee Diploma
- Distinction in Accountancy
- Finance of International Trade
- Investment
- Law Relating to Banking
- Monetary Economics
- Nature of Management
- Practice of Banking 1
- Practice of Banking 2

### TRUSTEE DIPLOMA

12 Candidates who completed in September, 1983

- BARCLAYS BANK TRUST COMPANY Stephanie Jane Wadding. HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK TRUST COMPANY J. East. MIDLAND BANK TRUST COMPANY D. A. Culligan; Susan Capstick; R. T. Rogers; D. C. Woods. NATIONAL WESTMINSTER BANK R. S. Frodower; R. W. Hamann; P. V. Johnston. NATIONAL WESTMINSTER GUERNSEY TRUST COMPANY T. M. Scarle. ROY WEST TRUST CORPORATION BAHAMAS B. W. C. Pile.

### OPTIONAL EXAMINATIONS

#### INVESTMENT

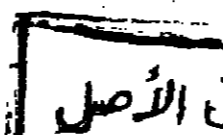
8 Candidates who passed in September, 1983

- BARCLAYS BANK S. M. Coates, AIB; S. J. Ward, AIB. BARCLAYS BANK TRUST COMPANY A. Black, AIB. CENTRAL BANK OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO R. F. Lewis, AIB. LLOYDS BANK C. J. Herbert, AIB. NATIONAL WESTMINSTER BANK G. M. Hilder, AIB; K. J. Tucker, AIB; Elizabeth Ann Yates.

### CREDIT CARD CERTIFICATE

2 Candidates who completed in September, 1983

- BANG SENG BANK Cheung Ching Hop. TSB TRUSTCARD R. T. Povey, AIB.



INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK • edited by Michael Prest

# Granada - printing money at a slower pace

Television companies would prefer these days that nobody had ever mentioned licences to print money, and Granada was no exception. Group pretax profits for the year fell by 7.6 per cent to £43.5m while turnover put on 14 per cent to £521m. Trading surplus, moreover, went up by the same amount to £128m.

Measured by volume, the television and video rental business is the problem. Its share of group profits shed another percentage point last year to 55.4 per cent of £24.7m of trading profits.

But it is clear that long-term growth will come from other areas. The trouble for Granada is that the new profits source is not obvious.

The areas which did show a significant improvement over last year were overseas rentals, bingo and cinemas, and motorway services. The former is particularly promising because the £5.72m trading profit, up from £2.82m, came after absorbing £2.4m of development costs in the United States.

Investment and economies in bingo helped to raise its

contribution from £4.69m to £6.06m.

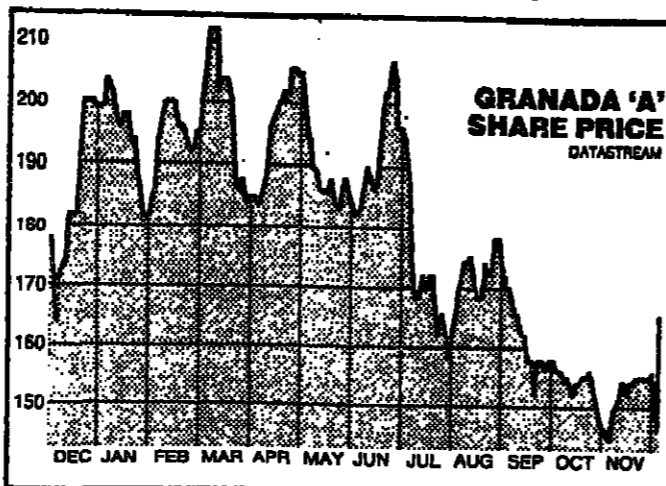
Motorway services almost doubled trading profits to £2.59m - again the fruit of heavy investment in recent years. Granada also benefited from the petrol price war.

But the television business proper, still in a sense the group's flagship, saw its Channel Four subscription go up from £5.7m last year to a considerable £15.6m. After levy relief the actual figure was £3.3m, so the division's trading profit of £6.7m compared with £8.9m was more creditable than it might seem at first sight.

What really upset the figures, however, was the sharp turnaround in the Belgian insurance business. It lost £2m. This is supposed to include all known claims, and shareholders will certainly hope that it is so.

In the end, earnings per share fell only slightly to 12.5p, and this doubtless encouraged the directors to raise the final dividend by 10 per cent to 3.7p net.

The full payout of 5.8p, up 6 per cent, is covered 2.1 times and yields a very fair 5 per cent.



## Pilkington

Pilkington's strong progress in the first half, during which pretax profits rose by 90 per cent to £30.4m, disguises the continuing, if diminishing, losses, incurred on the core British operations. It is the company's version of current cost accounting is accepted, the shortfall in this country was £1.1m.

But of that total £7.2m was redundancy and pension cost, a figure which may be bigger in the second half. Despite the weakness of demand and foreign competition encouraged by the resilience of sterling against European currencies, especially in the flat glass market, the trading position improved from a loss of £12.7m to a loss of £3.9m.

Favourable indicator, and Pilkington has restored its market share to 55 per cent.

Overseas, however, the picture is brighter. Libbey-Owens-Ford in the US contributed £4.6m, and the South African, Swedish and, oddly enough, Argentine companies did well.

But below the line, this imbalance between Britain - where it must be admitted the specialist electro-optical, ophthalmic and carmir glasses are performing solidly - and overseas generates tax problems. After £25.6m in tax, of which £23.5m was incurred abroad, the attributable net loss was £1.8m.

The result was a retained loss of £10.3m, and a loss per share of 0.5p. Nevertheless, this is a distinct advance on last year's retained loss of £15.5m or 3.5p a share, and coupled with a 27 per cent increase in turnover to £578m, supports the maintained 5p net dividend. On the 10p fall in the share price to 238p, the yield is 6.3 per cent.

## Crystalate

Mr John Leworthy, chairman of the electronic component

and equipment manufacturers Crystalate Holdings, does not like debt. That fact may well determine the group's decision about selling the recently acquired china business Royal Worcester. The £24m battle has left the group with £5m of Worcester debt and £9m of Crystalate loan stock - which in effect becomes a rights issue if a sale is made - both of which Mr Leworthy could do without.

But Crystalate has been unable to value that side of Worcester's business because it has yet to locate the structure of the diversified businesses. Certainly, potential bidders have not been slow to make approaches including the present managements.

Not surprisingly, Crystalate easily beat the profit forecast made at the time of the bid battle. Pretax profits are up 34 per cent to £3.2m on a turnover up from £20.7m to £23.8m. The final dividend is raised from 1.54p to 2.5p, making a total pay-out for the year of 3.25p.

The shares are back to nudging the year's peak of 192p at 186p, up 7p to yield 2.5 per cent.

## Commercial Property

# Surging South-east

The South-east, outside London, is enjoying a surge in office development at the expense of the rest of the country, according to a detailed study just published by St Quintin, a leading firm of chartered surveyors. It concludes that if the present trends continue there will be more commercial office space in the outer South-east than in central London by the early 1990s.

The last 10 years have seen a startling change in the situation. In 1974, central London accounted for 25.7 per cent of all commercial office floorspace in England, the outer South-east for 14.5 per cent, and all other regions combined 46.1 per cent.

But over the next eight years the growth in central London office space was the lowest of these areas while that of the outer South-east was the highest. By 1982, central London's share had fallen to 23.8 per cent, but that of the outer South-east had jumped to 17.1 per cent.

The continued decline in 1982, central London's share of the main industrial company headquarters rose from 41 per cent to 43 per cent while the outer South-east's share doubled from 7 per cent to 15 per cent, and the share of all other regions combined fell from 40 per cent to 31 per cent.

"The outer South-east's gain has not been at the expense of London but rather at the expense of the provincial regions", the study says. "The fact that, notwithstanding central London's reduced share of office space, its share of major company headquarters has increased leads St Quintin to reject the possibility that the outer South-east's growth is due simply to decentralization, or that central London as an office centre is declining in absolute terms."

The study concentrated on 13 towns providing a mix which includes new towns, traditional locations, and a regional centre - Crawley, Harlow, Peterborough, Redditch, Basingstoke, Swindon, Brighton, Cheltenham, Oxford, Leatherhead, Newbury, Norwich and Ilford.

The biggest percentage increase in office floorspace since 1974 occurred in Redditch, 14 miles south of Birmingham, which nearly tripled floorspace from 103,300 sq ft to 301,300 sq

ft in eight years. Swindon and Peterborough both more than doubled their floorspace, and the study concludes that proximity to London is an unreliable guide to office growth.

According to St Quintin, the main factors in determining growth are a town's attraction as a relocation base, its status as a regional or sub-regional centre, its status as a local centre and the specialization of a town in one or a few economic activities.

Status as a regional or sub-regional centre emerged as the principle factor in office development in the traditional centres of Brighton and Norwich and to some extent in Cheltenham and Oxford, but only in two - Basingstoke and Swindon - was the relocations factor responsible for rapid growth.


The comparison between Crawley and Harlow, both designated new towns in 1947, each with a similar-sized population and each a similar distance from London, is significant. Crawley has benefited from proximity to Gatwick Airport and the town has developed as a sub-regional centre, resulting in dynamic growth. Harlow, without the advantage of a Gatwick, has been unable to expand its office sector to the same extent.

A close look at a small area - Holborn, west of the City of London - by Weatherall Green and Smith shows that against a backdrop of continuing economic uncertainty and a "surprisingly long period of little self-confidence" following the general election, the office property market in Holborn has stood the test "reasonably well".

Deals are still being done, although some very hard bargains have been struck to secure tenants and in recent weeks the market has shown a marked upturn, fuelled by the return of confidence in the economy, especially in the United States, the firm concludes.

They note, however, that some buildings are still under construction and after a considerable time on the market and supply is still exceeding demand, leaving no immediate prospects of rental growth.

Christopher Warman



## DALGETY PLC

Highlights of the Year Ended on June 30, 1983.

- \* Profit before tax up 15% to a record £52.5 million
- \* Borrowings reduced by £16m
- \* Earnings per share improved 18% to 44p

AT THE 99TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD IN LONDON ON FRIDAY NOVEMBER 25TH, CHAIRMAN MR. DAVID DONNE SAID:

"Since the report and accounts were sent to you, your company has completed three major deals. These transactions which were in Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom, are amongst the most far reaching steps that the Group has taken since its incorporation almost 100 years ago.

By following the strategy laid down for the Group in the early 1970's, we had by June of this year transformed a geographical profile heavily dependent upon Australasian weather and trading conditions into a very different profile indeed. In the process we have become one of the Northern Hemisphere's major food and agricultural companies.

The merging of our Australian interests gives us a smaller but more profitable share of a much larger business, as is also the case with our merger in New Zealand. The cash soon to be released in New Zealand, together with the enhanced borrowing power available to the Group as a result of these two deals will go a long way to financing the third, and undoubtedly the most significant of our recent moves - the acquisition of RHM Agriculture, which was part of Rank Hovis McDougall.

The acquisition of RHM Agriculture will double our share of the UK market for animal feeds but much more importantly it will greatly extend and improve our ability to service farmers throughout the UK.

The Directors have already said that they are confident about the outcome for the current year. The figures which are now coming through for the first months of the year are well ahead of those for last year, and fully support this confidence."

For copies of the Annual Report and Accounts, please contact the Company Secretary at Dalgety PLC, 19 Hanover Square, London W1R 9DA.

### COMMODITIES

| LONDON COMMODITY PRICES                |        | LONDON GOLD FUTURES MARKET |               |
|--|--------|----------------------------|---------------|
| Commodity                              | Price  | Month                      | Settlement    |
| Rubber in £2 per tonnes                | 840.00 | Dec                        | 400.10-401.00 |
| Coffee, cocoa, sugar in pounds per cwt | 840.00 | Jan                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| SUGAR - Oct in US \$ per metric ton    | 232.21 | Feb                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 1984-85-86                        | 840.00 | Mar                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 1985-86-87                        | 840.00 | Apr                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 1986-87-88                        | 840.00 | May                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 1987-88-89                        | 840.00 | Jun                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 1988-89-90                        | 840.00 | Jul                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 1989-90-91                        | 840.00 | Aug                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 1990-91-92                        | 840.00 | Sep                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 1991-92-93                        | 840.00 | Oct                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 1992-93-94                        | 840.00 | Nov                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 1993-94-95                        | 840.00 | Dec                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 1994-95-96                        | 840.00 | Jan                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 1995-96-97                        | 840.00 | Feb                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 1996-97-98                        | 840.00 | Mar                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 1997-98-99                        | 840.00 | Apr                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 1998-99-00                        | 840.00 | May                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 1999-00-01                        | 840.00 | Jun                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2000-01-02                        | 840.00 | Jul                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2001-02-03                        | 840.00 | Aug                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2002-03-04                        | 840.00 | Sep                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2003-04-05                        | 840.00 | Oct                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2004-05-06                        | 840.00 | Nov                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2005-06-07                        | 840.00 | Dec                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2006-07-08                        | 840.00 | Jan                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2007-08-09                        | 840.00 | Feb                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2008-09-10                        | 840.00 | Mar                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2009-10-11                        | 840.00 | Apr                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2010-11-12                        | 840.00 | May                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2011-12-13                        | 840.00 | Jun                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2012-13-14                        | 840.00 | Jul                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2013-14-15                        | 840.00 | Aug                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2014-15-16                        | 840.00 | Sep                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2015-16-17                        | 840.00 | Oct                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2016-17-18                        | 840.00 | Nov                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2017-18-19                        | 840.00 | Dec                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2018-19-20                        | 840.00 | Jan                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2019-20-21                        | 840.00 | Feb                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2020-21-22                        | 840.00 | Mar                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2021-22-23                        | 840.00 | Apr                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2022-23-24                        | 840.00 | May                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2023-24-25                        | 840.00 | Jun                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2024-25-26                        | 840.00 | Jul                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2025-26-27                        | 840.00 | Aug                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2026-27-28                        | 840.00 | Sep                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2027-28-29                        | 840.00 | Oct                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2028-29-30                        | 840.00 | Nov                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2029-30-31                        | 840.00 | Dec                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2030-31-32                        | 840.00 | Jan                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2031-32-33                        | 840.00 | Feb                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2032-33-34                        | 840.00 | Mar                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2033-34-35                        | 840.00 | Apr                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2034-35-36                        | 840.00 | May                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2035-36-37                        | 840.00 | Jun                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2036-37-38                        | 840.00 | Jul                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2037-38-39                        | 840.00 | Aug                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2038-39-40                        | 840.00 | Sep                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2039-40-41                        | 840.00 | Oct                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2040-41-42                        | 840.00 | Nov                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2041-42-43                        | 840.00 | Dec                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2042-43-44                        | 840.00 | Jan                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2043-44-45                        | 840.00 | Feb                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2044-45-46                        | 840.00 | Mar                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2045-46-47                        | 840.00 | Apr                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2046-47-48                        | 840.00 | May                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2047-48-49                        | 840.00 | Jun                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2048-49-50                        | 840.00 | Jul                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2049-50-51                        | 840.00 | Aug                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2050-51-52                        | 840.00 | Sep                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2051-52-53                        | 840.00 | Oct                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2052-53-54                        | 840.00 | Nov                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2053-54-55                        | 840.00 | Dec                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2054-55-56                        | 840.00 | Jan                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2055-56-57                        | 840.00 | Feb                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2056-57-58                        | 840.00 | Mar                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2057-58-59                        | 840.00 | Apr                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2058-59-60                        | 840.00 | May                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2059-60-61                        | 840.00 | Jun                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2060-61-62                        | 840.00 | Jul                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2061-62-63                        | 840.00 | Aug                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2062-63-64                        | 840.00 | Sep                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2063-64-65                        | 840.00 | Oct                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2064-65-66                        | 840.00 | Nov                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2065-66-67                        | 840.00 | Dec                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2066-67-68                        | 840.00 | Jan                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2067-68-69                        | 840.00 | Feb                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2068-69-70                        | 840.00 | Mar                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2069-70-71                        | 840.00 | Apr                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2070-71-72                        | 840.00 | May                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2071-72-73                        | 840.00 | Jun                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2072-73-74                        | 840.00 | Jul                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2073-74-75                        | 840.00 | Aug                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2074-75-76                        | 840.00 | Sep                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2075-76-77                        | 840.00 | Oct                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2076-77-78                        | 840.00 | Nov                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2077-78-79                        | 840.00 | Dec                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2078-79-80                        | 840.00 | Jan                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2079-80-81                        | 840.00 | Feb                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2080-81-82                        | 840.00 | Mar                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2081-82-83                        | 840.00 | Apr                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2082-83-84                        | 840.00 | May                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2083-84-85                        | 840.00 | Jun                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2084-85-86                        | 840.00 | Jul                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2085-86-87                        | 840.00 | Aug                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2086-87-88                        | 840.00 | Sep                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2087-88-89                        | 840.00 | Oct                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2088-89-90                        | 840.00 | Nov                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2089-90-91                        | 840.00 | Dec                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2090-91-92                        | 840.00 | Jan                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2091-92-93                        | 840.00 | Feb                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2092-93-94                        | 840.00 | Mar                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2093-94-95                        | 840.00 | Apr                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2094-95-96                        | 840.00 | May                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2095-96-97                        | 840.00 | Jun                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2096-97-98                        | 840.00 | Jul                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2097-98-99                        | 840.00 | Aug                        | 400.00-400.00 |
| Wool 2098-99-00                        |        |                            |               |



# Champion upset as Miss Durie ignores respect

From John Ballantine, Melbourne

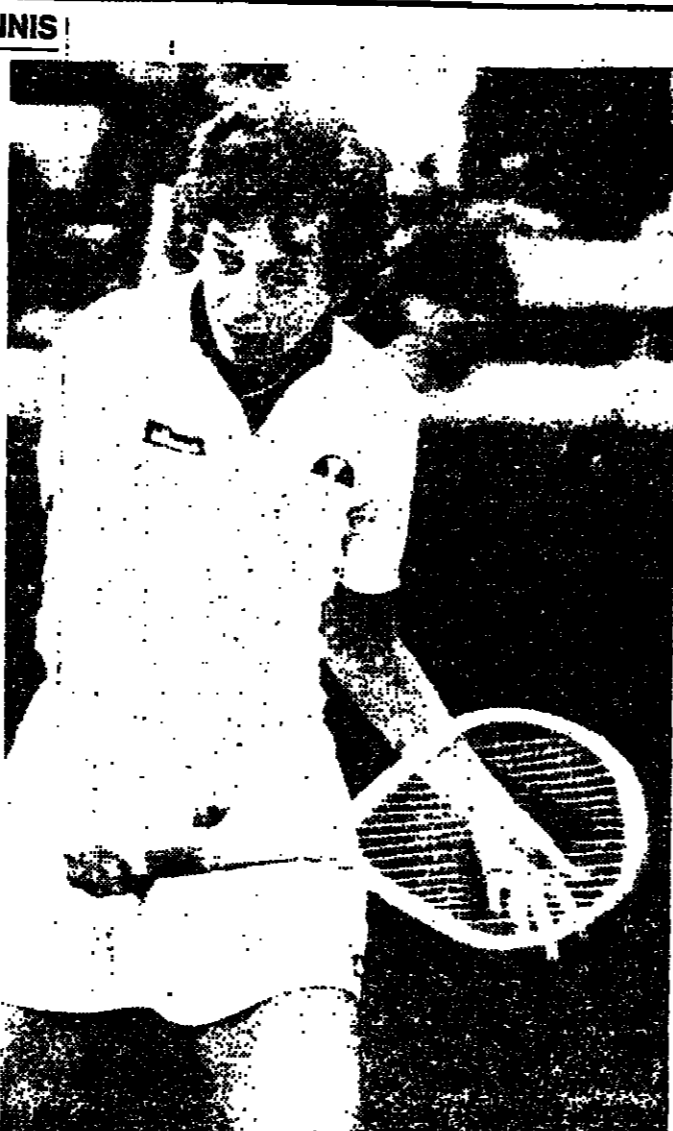
From Jo Durie's close shot at victory to Martina Navratilova's garrulous attack on Miss Durie as "disrespectful to the top players", to Ivan Lendl's lull, it was all happening in the quarter-finals of the Australian Open here at historic, fibreglass Kooyong.

Miss Durie, who excitingly had taken the first set 6-4 from Miss Navratilova when rain stopped play on Tuesday night, lost the second set but broke service with some full-blooded drives to lead 3-1 in the third. But she double faulted twice in one game and was 3-4 down.

"I'm totally shocked and surprised, and it upset me to hear she had been saying these things," said Miss Navratilova. "She's never beaten Chris (Lloyd) or Andrea (Jaggar) and is still not even ranked in the top 10 on the computer (this proved wrong when new world rankings today made Miss Durie No 8).

After our match was halted by rain several players came up and said you've got to beat her. This went on Miss Navratilova, adding "Maybe she's trying to make herself believe something in the hope it will happen."

This last remark, I believe, is part of the truth and anyway there is nothing wrong in a competitor "psyching herself up". Miss Navratilova herself indulged in some cocky positive thinking not long ago about expecting to be regarded as one of the great players of history and, in consequence, Mrs Lloyd jibed out some of the same verbal rhubarb that today Miss Navratilova spooned out to Miss Durie.



Jo Durie shows the belief that yesterday shook Martina Navratilova in Australia

## Kriek loses title grip

Melbourne (Agencies) - Johan Kriek, men's singles champion here for the last two years, was beaten yesterday by Mats Wilander in the Australian Open quarter-finals. Wilander, a former French Open champion won 6-3, 6-4, 7-6 to earn a semi-final match with John McEnroe.

Wilander used his unerring accuracy and patience from the baseline to frustrate the speedy little South African-born American. The Swede, who leads his country's Davis Cup squad to meet Australia in the final later this month, hurried to a 3-0 lead in the opening set after clinching a break in the first game.

Kriek broke back in the seventh game but Wilander replied immediately with a service break to recapture the lead. It was Kriek's first appearance on the centre court this year. All his matches had been held in the outside courts until yesterday. Kriek had complained that he always seemed to get "the raw end of the deal". He vowed that he would never return for the event.

McEnroe showed his authority blizzing the unseeded Australian, Wally Masur, 6-2, 6-1, 6-2 in another quarter-final.

## YACHTING

### People are frantic to sail the Atlantic

By John Nicholls

The next single-handed transatlantic race, which starts from Plymouth on June 2 next year, has been heavily over-subscribed. Organized by the Royal Western Yacht Club and sponsored by the Observer and the radio station Europe 1, entries have been limited to 100, after more than twice that number originally applied.

More than a quarter (27) of the starters will be Americans, the next numerous will be 23 Frenchmen and women, followed by 19 British. The race was last held in 1980, when the American winner, Phil Weld, set a new record for the passage to Newport of 17 days 23 hours and 12 minutes.

Weld will not be defending his trophy. Now aged 69, he considers he is too old to compete with both the North Atlantic and his rivals in what is becoming an increasingly competitive race.

The largest class will also be the biggest (45-60ft long) and includes several boats built specially for the race. Most of them are multihulls, which will be expected to lead the way across and, by winning, justify the expense to their sponsors.

To celebrate their company's 100th anniversary, the BOC Group is to sponsor a second single-handed race round the world. The first race, which ended earlier this year, attracted 17 starters, and appears to meet a need for this sort of long distance yachting event. The next race will start from Newport, Rhode Island, in August, 1986.

Only 10 of the original starters completed the first race, three of the yachts were abandoned, though thankfully no lives were lost. In view of the lessons learned, there have been some significant changes to the rules and conditions for the next race. All yachts will have to be fitted with watertight bulkheads and a satellite monitoring transmitter. Size limits have been increased, and are now from 40ft to 60ft.

Philippe Jeantou, who won the first race, intends to go again, and on the strength of his earlier success, he has been provided with new 60ft catamaran for the single-handed transatlantic race.

## CRICKET

### Late imports and Rackemann's withdrawal will help Pakistan

From Ian Brayshaw, Adelaide

Alarm bells ringing in the Pakistani camp have been heard back home and two quality replacements have arrived in Australia in time for the third Test which starts here tomorrow. Their arrival will bolster flagging spirits in the tourists' ranks after an innings defeat in the first Test and further humiliation before being saved by the rain in the second. A confidence-boosting victory over Victoria last weekend and yesterday's withdrawal of Carl Rackemann, Australia's leading wicket-taker in the series have, further improved Pakistan's chances.

Rackemann pulled a muscle in his left side in the Sheffield Shield match between Queensland and New South Wales at Sydney last weekend. Although the injury is not serious, Rackemann will not be risked. He has taken 16 wickets in the previous tests at an average of 11.06.

The men flown in from Pakistan at short notice are Sarfraz Nawaz and Saleem Malik. Sarfraz arrived in time to play against Victoria and though he made no great impression, is certain to play in the Test. Malik reached Adelaide only yesterday and his participation will depend upon the fitness of Mansoor Akhtar.

Mansoor broke a finger the day before the second Test in which he was expected to replace an out-of-order Wasim Raja in the middle order. Raja's place appears even less tenable now as he has scored just 185 runs from 100 innings on the tour. With the exception of Omar, none of the Pakistan batsmen has shown anything in the Tests and Malik's class and enthusiasm may be just what the team needs.

Mudassar Nazair, the opening batsman, must surely be close to making a big Test score - he made a century in each innings against Victoria, bringing his tally of centuries in the state games to five from 10 innings.

Zabeer Abbas, on paper the best of the visiting batsmen, has shown little appetite for the task of trying to tame the Australian fast bowling. He underlined this fact last week by saying he will leave the tour immediately the Tests are over, thus missing the lucrative one-day international series against Australia and the West Indies.

On the field, Adelaide Oval wicket, there's little to suggest that the Pakistani attack, bolstered by Sarfraz, will fare any better than they did in the opening two Tests when Australia batted just once each time for scores of 436-0, declared and 309-7 declared. The performances of Abdul Qadir, the leg spinner, have been disappointing with returns of 3-121 and 1-112. He must improve on these analyses if Pakistan are to level the series.

Rackemann's injury assures Dennis Lillee of a position in the side when it originally looked like he would be twelfth man. Geoff Lawson and Rodney Hogg will open the attack with Lillee first change. Tom Hogan, the left arm spinner, comes into the side for his second Test match. The selectors chose a squad of 13 when Rackemann's injury was brought to their notice and Graeme Wood will now be twelfth man. Wood is still limping from a blow he took on the left foot but is confident he will be fit by tomorrow.

Despite Rackemann's injury everything looks rosy in the Australian dressing room. They have demoralized their opponents in the opening two Tests.

Imran Khan, Pakistan's captain, arrived in Sydney yesterday. He is injured left shin (Reuters reports) He is due to be examined by an orthopaedic surgeon today.

## King Richards' revenge Zimbabwe succeeds

Jamshedpur (AFP) - The West Indies took India attack by scoring 333 runs for eight wickets on only 45 overs to win the fourth one-day cricket international against India here yesterday. India were outplayed in all departments as the West Indies won by 104 runs for their fourth successive victory of this tour. It was a mistake for the Indians to bail us in the World Cup, the West Indies team manager, Wes Hall said.

Asked to bat first by the Indians, captain Kapil Dev, the West Indians scored 333 runs for eight wickets in 45 overs, setting a near world record.

Monte Lyach should shortly be cleared to resume his Surrey career as an England-qualified player. After studying legal advice, the test and county Cricket Board has decided they cannot change his status to that of an overseas player even though he is currently on the England tour.

West Indies: G. Greenidge 5 Shastri 114, V. Vengalkar 10, Kapil Dev 149, D. Ranjiv Singh 50, C. Lloyd 4, Amarnath 1, Kapil Dev 1, S. Gavaskar 1, M. Kaif 1, A. Roberts not out, H. Harpreet 0, M. Hossain 0, Extras 10.

Total (8 bats, 45 overs) 333. FALL OF WICKETS: 1-27, 2-348, 3-303, 4-320, 5-334, 6-331, 7-334, 8-334.

Financial market data table with columns for various stock indices and company shares. Includes sections for 'Authorized Unit Trusts', 'General Unit Trust Managers', 'Government Bonds', 'Autos', and 'Shares'. The table contains numerous rows of numerical data representing prices and yields.



BOXING: BRUNO IS WALTZED TO TOP TEN TUNE

A South African trapdoor for a pantomime king?

By Srikanth Sen, Boxing Correspondent
There may be a touch of the old show business about boxing, but there was a large helping of...



Bruno: thinks people are just waiting for his fall

meets Coetzee in Sun City, Bophuthatswana, South Africa, what would he do? He could take on the South African and knock him out - he certainly has the punch to do it - or he could be beaten by Coetzee...

Hats off to Coetzee

Johannesburg (Reuters) - Gerrie Coetzee of South Africa, the World Boxing Association heavyweight champion, was accused yesterday of administering a deliberate sub to the South African press after he failed to attend a banquet at which he was due to be honoured as the sports star of the year...

Today's fixtures

- FOOTBALL: Ipswich v Luton, Reading v Millwall, etc.
RUGBY UNION: Gloucestershire v Devon, etc.
OTHER SPORTS: Snooker, etc.

A golfer who repented and gained maturity

Twice in two years Ken Brown was indicted for "not trying". In the 1979 Ryder Cup match he refused to communicate with his partner, Des Smyth...

The new Brown is ready for export

When he returns from Indonesia next week after representing Scotland in the World Cup, Brown will barely have time to celebrate Christmas and the New Year at home with his girlfriend, Dawn...

Uttoxeter

- 1.0 SUDBURY CHASE (5-y-o novices: 21, 103; 2m 11) (8 runners)
1.10 CUBLEY HURDLE (selling handicap: 2543; 2m 4f) (11)
2.0 DECEMBER CHASE (handicap: 21,882; 2m 4f) (11)

Carlisle

- 12.45 CALDEB HURDLE (Div I novices: 2521; 2m 330y) (13 runners)
1.15 ASPATRIA HURDLE (selling: 2515; 2m 330y) (8)
1.45 CUMWHINTON CHASE (handicap: 21,360; 3m) (8)

Hexham results

- 1.45 HENGGATE CHASE (handicap: 21,522; 3m)
2.45 EASTGATE HURDLE (Amateurs: novices: 2m 4f)

RACING: JOCKEY CLUB NAME RIDERS INVOLVED IN RACE-FIXING

Aintree's longest runner will be brought down next year

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent
After years and years of uncertainty Aintree and the Grand National may at last be safe, but not so those age old rickety stands which have witnessed so many remarkable happenings during the history of this unique race...

Jockeys to face bribery charges

Three leading jockeys are to appear before racing's overlords, the Jockey Club, in connection with allegations of bribery. Billy Newnes, Nigel Day and Brian Taylor were named yesterday after investigations by Racecourse Security Services into the claim by a national newspaper of race-fixing on the flat...

Boreen Deas surprises

Michael Cunningham was asked to appear before the stewards at Naas yesterday afternoon after his four-year-old, Boreen Deas, had provided a 33- surprise by beating some of Ireland's best jumpers in the Naas Handicap...

Champion again

Yves Saint-Martin ensured victory in the French jockeys' title when he rode Mallard to win the Prix de Cabries at Marseilles yesterday. He now leads his main rival, Freddie Head, by 124 to 122...

Uttoxeter

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2.45 EASTGATE HURDLE (Amateurs: novices: 2m 4f)

Uttoxeter selections

- 1.0 Gamble Hall, 1.30 The Totm, 2.0 Flope of Oak, 2.30 Master Terrel, 3.0 Nialan, 3.30 Mervon.

Road to Curtis Cup win

The captain of the British Curtis Cup team, Diane Bailey does not think it will take too great an effort for her players to end America's domination of the competition at Muirfield in June...

Lane's world title shot

Barry Lane, who has struggled for financial survival since he turned professional seven years ago, can become a world champion this week. The Downshire golfer, aged 23, has a chance of winning the inaugural world assistants title, sponsored by Footjoy in Orlando, Florida...

RUGBY LEAGUE

British to be fit for Australians

By Keith Mackillop
For the first time ever, a Great Britain touring team will take with them a "fitness consultant". Yesterday at a meeting of the Rugby League Council in Leeds, it was decided that the normal touring management team for the 1984 trip to Australia will include Rod McKenzie, senior lecturer in physical education at Carnegie College, Leeds...

IN BRIEF

Yorkshire support for Appleyard peace plan

Strong support for what has become known as the "Appleyard peace plan" came last night from Reg Kirk, one of Yorkshire Cricket Club's leading members involved in the attempt to bring about the reinstatement of Geoff Boycott...

RALLYCROSS

Schanche unveils his latest

Martin Schanche, three times European champion, has unveiled the car he hopes will take him to victory in this weekend's British Rallycross Grand Prix, sponsored by Mercedes, at Brands Hatch. The Norwegian has prepared a MK3 Ford Escort which could prove more than a match for the Audi Quattros and Porsches...

Uttoxeter selections

- 1.0 Gamble Hall, 1.30 The Totm, 2.0 Flope of Oak, 2.30 Master Terrel, 3.0 Nialan, 3.30 Mervon.

Carlisle selections

- 1.000-000 MR LARK (S Drago) Mrs K Coakman 8-11-3
1.000-000 OCEAN CHASE (S Mace) M Mason 8-11-3
1.000-000 SIR HANCOCK (S G) Mrs G Peadar 7-11-3

Carlisle selections

- 12.45 Pebble Island, 1.15 Misty Mirage, 1.45 Final Argument, 2.15 Sam Wrekin, 2.45 Vitiolic, 3.15 On Leave.

Uttoxeter selections

- 1.000-000 MR LARK (S Drago) Mrs K Coakman 8-11-3
1.000-000 OCEAN CHASE (S Mace) M Mason 8-11-3
1.000-000 SIR HANCOCK (S G) Mrs G Peadar 7-11-3







BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS AND IN MEMORIAM. Births: Ann, daughter of Mr and Mrs...

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS. The family of the late Mrs. Margaret...

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS. XMAS IN MALAGA. £119 per week...

PERSONAL COLUMNS. WINTER SPORTS. SKI PRICES FROM £34 UPWARDS...

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ANNOUNCEMENTS. THE NURSES IN NEED. Many nurses have been unable to...

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Entertainments. La crème de la crème appears every day and is featured on Wednesdays and Thursdays. 01-278 9161

Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Lee

BBC 1

- 6.00 Ceefax AM. News, sport, weather and travel information in a taste of teletext.
6.30 Breakfast Time. Frank Bough and Selma Scott with the look for news at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30; Regional News at 8.45, 9.15, 9.45, 10.15; Weather at 9.31, 9.57, 10.27, 10.57, 11.27; Morning papers at 7.18 and 8.18.
9.00 Mastermind. Repeated semi-finals of the brain-box challenge. 9.30 CloseDown. 10.30 Play School. 10.55 CloseDown.
12.30 News, Weather, 12.57 Financial Report and news.
1.00 Peabody Mill at One. Celebrity quizzers and humor arranging 1.45 Postman Pat.
2.00 Take Another Look. It's a Crystal, Crystal World. An aesthetic appreciation of nature, as viewed through crystals (r).
2.10 Film: Born to Be Bad (1955) What a wicked woman is Jean Fontaine. She gets her claws into millionaire Zachary Scott, artist Mel Ferrer and writer Robert Altman, the rising star of her uncle's publishing house in San Francisco. Nicholas Ray knew it was all bad fun and directed accordingly.
3.55 Play School. It's Thursday. 4.20 The Adventures of Submarine and Rocky: Cartoon saga. 4.35 Jackanory. Read by John Grant. 4.35 Spider-Man and His Amazing Friends.
5.00 John Craven's Newsworld. 5.10 Blue Peter.
5.40 Sixty Minutes. Nationwide news on tape incorporate the news at 4.40. South East at Six at 5.53; Weather at 6.15; Closing Headlines at 6.36.
6.40 Angels. The week's second dose of the hospital soap opera. Chris and Tracy move into their new flat.
7.05 Tomorrow's World. For cable companies a great cutter that can lay a mile of cable a day. And a resus chator that resuscitates if the patient fails to breathe.
7.30 Top of the Pops. Mike Read and Tony Van Veen are the DJ duo linking performers as the pop hits.
8.05 Wildlife on One: Sparrows of St James's. Fame at last for the little brown birds we so often take for granted, unless we're washing the car or hanging out the washing.
8.30 Only John and Horace. Another episode in which writer John Sullivan's inept impresario Rodney and Del are armed with a paint brush, this time on an ill-fated commission to redecorate a friend's flat.
9.00 News and weather.
9.25 Johnny Jarvis. Having begun as a sort of serial for Grange Hill graduates, this tale of two lads from London's East End has taken on an almost surreal turgor, with a shadowy drug dealer called The Colonel holding the rock writer Philip on a prison island. His mother's courtship by a gangster is also flat-broke, and flat broke, confounded to baby-sit while Stella goes time to work.
10.25 Question Time. Sir Robin Day erects his political platform in Edinburgh, for computer king Sir Clive Sinclair. Gavin Laid, general secretary of the AUEW, Charles Kennedy, the SDP MP for Ross and Cromarty and George Younger, MP, Secretary of State for Scotland.
11.18 News headlines.
11.20 George Burns's Early Early Early Christmas. With Bob Hope, Ann-Margret, the Hawks (John, Happy Days) and Playboy Playmates, the ultimate in stocking fillers. It's a repeat, repeat, repeat.
12.10 Weather and CloseDown.

TV-am

- 6.25 Good Morning Britain. Anne Diamond and Nick Owen start the day with the morning papers, then news at 6.30 and half-hourly until 9.00; sport at 6.35, 7.40; pop video at 7.55; farming at 8.50; Money Talks, 7.45; film review, 8.35; cookery with Michael Barry at 9.02. Peter Adamson is at 7.35.
12.00 Teletime and Claudia. 12.10 Get Up and Go! Beryl Hill chooses new clothes. 12.20 The Sullivan's. Australian magazine. 2.00 Take the High Road. More high life in the Highlands.
2.30 Brother to the Ox. John Willis (Rampton, Alice - A Fight for Life) turned to rather more rural pursuits to produce this evocative life and times of farm boy Fred Kitchen, "sold" at a bidding in 1904 (r).
3.30 Sons and Daughters. Endless serial.
4.00 Teletime and Claudia (r). 4.20 First Post. Junior TV critics. 4.35 Party Pity. With Dafny Garcia. 4.45 Here Comes Garry.
5.15 The Young Doctors. Brian asks out his wife.
5.45 News. 6.00 Thames News. 6.20 Thames Sport. Steve Crum discusses his 1500 metre prospects.
7.00 Knight Rider. Three assassins terrorise a blind woman at a restaurant in a street carter that can lay a mile of cable a day. And a resus chator that resuscitates if the patient fails to breathe.
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12.10 Weather and CloseDown.



William Boyd bows a bowsey at three rotten stumps of the English public school system in GOOD AND BAD AT GAMES (Channel 4, 9.30pm). The novelist's maiden film script provides director Jack Gold with his trick for Film on Four. But the way in which the schoolboys humiliate an insecure, youngyng boarder, is, to borrow Boyd's central metaphor, certainly not cricket. Leaping nimbly between then (1973) and now, Gold gradually reveals why, 10 years after leaving school a boisterous wreck, the persecuted Cox (Anton Lassar) in splendidly snivelling (Lassar) still revises his aggressors enough to pursue a violent vendetta against their leader. Boyd's dialogue is at times strong, though reason and the realism of the traumatic boot-room bullying scene in the tradition of Tom Brown's Schooldays and Lord of the Flies.

CHOICE

The climax is knowingly set on a playing field of England. Channel 4 is intent on keeping viewers out of the kitchen tonight. At the other end of the social scale from William Boyd's boarding school bullies, comes the SNIFTERS TALE (Channel 4, 11.30pm). This unsettling instalment in the outdoor series, Our Lives, is worth watching not because it is particularly good, but particularly because it is, I think, morally misguided. It is also a rare insight into gluing-sniffing, an inebriated subculture that I hope few of us are ever otherwise likely to encounter. "You just end up on the slab" says Pat, our glue guide, who thus becomes the exception to the rule: He ends up on television. Having told us how he

Radio 3

6.55 Weather. 7.00 News. 7.05 Morning Concert. On records. Part one, Music by Faure, Debussy, Liszt, Ravel. 8.00 News. 8.05 Morning Concert. Part two. Music by Debussy, Ravel, Stravinsky, Prokofiev. On records. 8.05 This Week's Composers: Franz Krommer and Jan Van Janek. On records. 8.05 A symphonic poem by Erik Satie. With Jane Manning (soprano) and the BBC Welsh Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Bryden Thomson. 10.00 Music for Harpsichord. A recital by Malcolm Power. He plays Bach's Partita No 2 in C minor, BWV 825; Arranged for Couperin's and Couperin's (La de Crayssy). 11.00 Music for Harpsichord. A recital by Malcolm Power. He plays Bach's Partita No 2 in C minor, BWV 825; Arranged for Couperin's and Couperin's (La de Crayssy). 11.00 Music for Harpsichord. A recital by Malcolm Power. He plays Bach's Partita No 2 in C minor, BWV 825; Arranged for Couperin's and Couperin's (La de Crayssy).

Radio 4

6.00 News briefing. 6.10 Farming today featuring The Royal Smithfield Show, London. Shipping forecast. 6.30 Today's Sport. 6.30, 6.30 News Summary. 6.45 Prayer for the Day. 6.55, 7.05 Today's Sport. 7.25, 8.25 Sport. 7.45 Thought for the Day. 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament. 8.57 Weather. 9.00 News. 9.05 Checkpoint. A weekly investigation into Easterners' problems. 9.30 The Living World. 10.00 The Living World. Part 2. Sue MacGregor talks to the conductor, Dr Jeffrey Tate, about his life and work. 10.30 Monday night. "The World of Spies" by Madame Blackmore. 10.45 Daily Service. 11.00 News. 11.05 News. 11.10 News. 11.15 News. 11.20 News. 11.25 News. 11.30 News. 11.35 News. 11.40 News. 11.45 News. 11.50 News. 11.55 News. 12.00 News. 12.05 News. 12.10 News. 12.15 News. 12.20 News. 12.25 News. 12.30 News. 12.35 News. 12.40 News. 12.45 News. 12.50 News. 12.55 News. 1.00 News. 1.05 News. 1.10 News. 1.15 News. 1.20 News. 1.25 News. 1.30 News. 1.35 News. 1.40 News. 1.45 News. 1.50 News. 1.55 News. 2.00 News. 2.05 News. 2.10 News. 2.15 News. 2.20 News. 2.25 News. 2.30 News. 2.35 News. 2.40 News. 2.45 News. 2.50 News. 2.55 News. 3.00 News. 3.05 News. 3.10 News. 3.15 News. 3.20 News. 3.25 News. 3.30 News. 3.35 News. 3.40 News. 3.45 News. 3.50 News. 3.55 News. 4.00 News. 4.05 News. 4.10 News. 4.15 News. 4.20 News. 4.25 News. 4.30 News. 4.35 News. 4.40 News. 4.45 News. 4.50 News. 4.55 News. 5.00 News. 5.05 News. 5.10 News. 5.15 News. 5.20 News. 5.25 News. 5.30 News. 5.35 News. 5.40 News. 5.45 News. 5.50 News. 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IRA kills leading Ulster politician

Continued from page 1
suspected that someone within the law faculty is "fingering" people, particularly following the attempted killings of Lord Gardiner, former Lord Chancellor, and the Lord Chief Justice of Northern Ireland, Lord Lowry.

The Rev Ian Paisley, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party, said: "There is a Republican cell working in the university that has got to be rid of". A student alleged not there was a number of Provisional IRA sympathizers within the students union.



The scene in the fog as firemen and rescuers search for survivors of the double crash at Madrid's Barajas airport.

90 die in second crash at Madrid airport

Continued from page 1
scene after hearing the explosion were unable to see where the wrecked aircraft were. The crash occurred ten days after a Boeing 747 of the Colombian airline Avianca crashed on its approach to Barajas, killing 181 passengers and crew. It also bore a striking similarity to the world's worst ever airline disaster which occurred in 1977 on the Spanish island of Tenerife when a Spanish jumbo jet collided head-on with a Dutch jumbo, killing 583 people.

"Inquiries must show how the Avisco plane came to find itself on the take off runway," he said.

Severiano Ballesteros, the US Masters Golf champion, had been booked on the Avisco flight.

But he took the late flight on Tuesday night.



A stunned survivor at Madrid Airport.

Scoon 'Grenada's Caesar'

Continued from page 1
Dominica) who took some responsibility for the invitation. Mr Rushford said: "Sir Paul Scoon remained in office throughout the period of Maurice Bishop's Government when human rights were suspended, when there were no elections. When that Government was overthrown, the Governor-General saw fit to call in foreign armies into this independent country. It is inconceivable that they would have come in without prior preparation. There must have been a line-up between the United States, Sir Paul and the Caribbean countries. It was a set-up."

IMF suspends \$14m for island
St George's (Reuter) - The International Monetary Fund has suspended a \$14m (25m) extended fund facility for Grenada, the caretaker Government said.

Mr Rushford said his main achievement had been to push through a constitutional arrangement for a proper civil Government which came into force on November 15. He said he was happy to note that Sir Paul said he was returning to his former function as Governor-General. "I applauded that act. He had terminated his reign as Caesar."

Frank Johnson in the Commons Crisis of Kinnock word mountain

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the British Prime Minister, yesterday flew to London to grapple with a new crisis, the controversial Kinnock word mountain.

Mrs Thatcher made a statement to the House on the failed meeting of European heads of government in Athens. Disguised as a series of questions to her, as under the rules of Commons procedure it was supposed to be, Mr Kinnock then made an immense statement about her statement. Indeed, at one point he was heard to observe: "No such statement has been forthcoming in this statement."

Labour Party having to pay for them in the form of lost votes, boredom and general hatred on the part of the rest of the population. But so far no such scheme has been devised.

Yesterday Mr Cook, who is the chief Opposition spokesman on Europe and is officially recognized as brilliant by virtue of his having a beard, could be seen in consultation with Mr Kinnock on the Opposition front bench shortly before Mrs Thatcher's arrival.

It was understood that Mr Cook had come up with a last-minute compromise scheme to limit word production by Mr Kinnock or at least keep it under control for the duration of the afternoon.

But within a few paragraphs of Mr Kinnock's remarks to Mrs Thatcher, it was clear that the plan had broken down. It was quite clear that Wales was not prepared to abide by any agreement to limit the word mountain or the notorious sub-clause lake. Just when we all thought Mr Kinnock was about to sit down, he got on to the V.A.T. contributions, having actually started off with the Lebanon.

Today's events

Royal engagements
The Queen opens the new London South Western District Office of the Post Office at Nine Elms, 3.

The Duchess of Gloucester attends the Annual Livery Banquet of the Worshipful Company of Fanmakers at Mansion House, London, 7.30.

Words and Images from the Lake District: Collins Gallery, University of Strathclyde, 22, Richmond Street, Glasgow; Mon to Fri 10 to 5, Sat 12 to 4 (ends Dec 23).

New books - paperback
The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week: A History of Poland, by O. Halecki (Faber, £8.95).

The papers
Referring to the use of the honours system for party political purposes, the Daily Mirror pointed out that in modern memory, four men went to the House of Lords.

Weather forecast

A slow-moving trough of low pressure lies across England and Wales. England and Wales will be cloudy with rain, heavy and persistent in Northern and central areas.

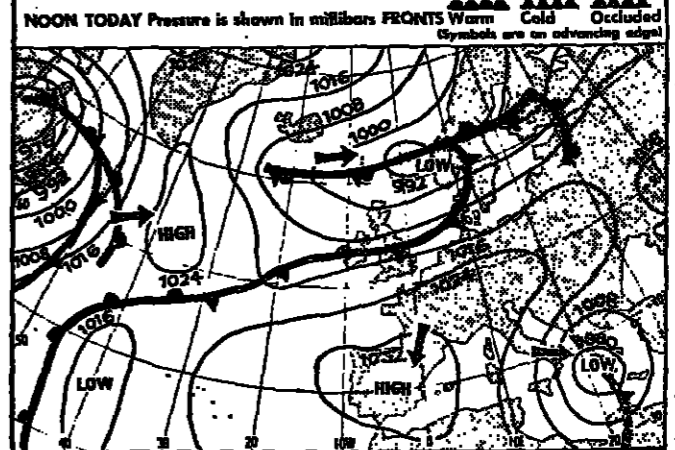
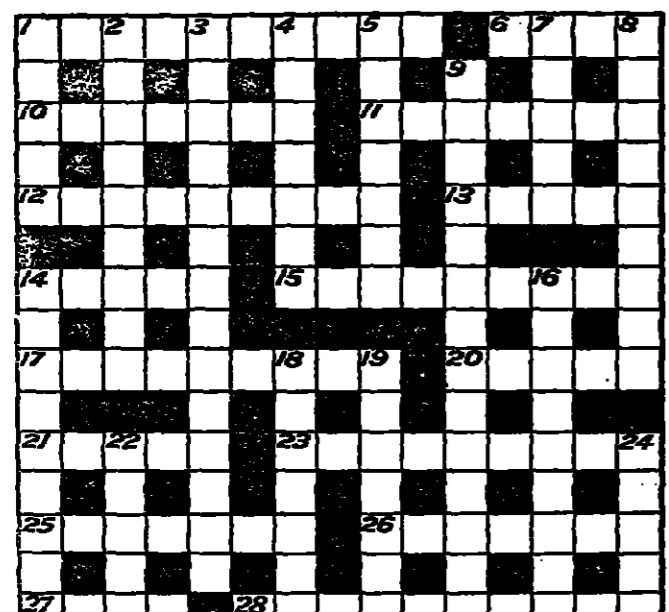


Table of high temperatures for various locations in the UK. Locations include London, Birmingham, Manchester, Glasgow, etc. Columns show high, low, and wind speed.

Table of weather conditions around Britain. Columns show Sun, Rain, Max, and Min for various regions like Scotland, Ireland, and the South of England.

Table of weather conditions abroad. Columns show Sun, Rain, Max, and Min for various international locations like Moscow, Tokyo, and Sydney.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,304



- 1 Decline to meet bill and other debts, causing disappointment (10).
2 Turn cooler? (4).
3 Star is able to get work? (7).
4 Gathering of lower types? (5,2).

MUSIC

Organ recital by Sir Nicholas Jackson, St David's Hall, Cardiff, 1.10.
Piano recital by John Lenehan, St Mary's Centre, Aylesbury, 1.10.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Appropriation (No 3 Northern Ireland) Order and Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Act 1978 (Continuance No 2) Order.

Christmas calls

Making local trunk and most direct dialled international calls will be cheaper this Christmas.

Falklands Day

Today is Falkland Islands' national day, known as 'Battle Day' after the Battle of the Falkland Islands on December 8, 1914, when the Royal Navy defeated the German South Atlantic Squadron.

The pound

Table showing exchange rates for various currencies: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, etc.

Mail hold-up

The Post Office have advised against posting letters or parcels to London, where unofficial industrial action has led to suspension of collection and delivery services.

Anniversaries

Births: Mary, Queen of Scots, Lighthou Palace, West Lothian, 1542; Bjornstjerne Bjornson, poet and dramatist, Kvikne, Norway, 1832; Jean Sibelius, Hameo, Finland, 1865; Padraic Colum, poet, Longford, Co Longford, 1821; James Thurber, Columbus, Ohio, 1894.

Highest and lowest

Table showing highest and lowest temperatures for various locations: London, Manchester, Birmingham, etc.

London

Yesterday: Temp: max 6m to 8m, 7C (52F); min 8m to 6m, 3C (38F). Humidity: 65%. Wind: 8m to 10m, 5.4 mph. Rain: none.

